

# MAXIM

 SOUTH AFRICA

DECEMBER 2014 / R39.90

## Alysson Holt

SEXY BLONDE  
AMBITION

PLUS

### CHANNING TATUM

From Stripper to Stardom

### HOLIDAY TRAINING

Turn ANYTHING  
ANYWHERE into a gym

### GAMING SPECIAL

BIGGEST RELEASES reviewed

The Ultimate

### MERCEDES BENZ

What really happens  
**IN VEGAS**

## TEMPTRESS

**ALEX MCGREGOR**

HOT, SASSY & TALENTED

**ASHLEY ALEXISS**

SOCIAL MEDIA GODDESS

## Trends

SUMMER DETAILS,  
head-turning WATCHES,  
styling SUNGLASSES &  
FRAGRANCES

## WISE GUYS

**BILL GATES'**

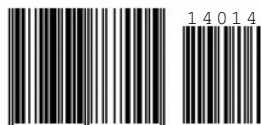
MUST-READ BUSINESS BIBLE

**ROB FORBES'**

SECRET TO SUCCESS

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The background of the cover art is a stylized, low-poly illustration of a city street at sunset. On the left, a tall palm tree stands against the orange and yellow sky. In the foreground, there's a street intersection with traffic lights. A building on the right has a sign that says "NOW FROZER SECTION" and another one below it that says "Tsunami" in a cursive font. The title "Grand Theft Auto V" is prominently displayed in the center. "Grand Theft Auto" is in a large, white, blocky font with a thick black outline. The "V" is a large, green, stylized letter with a white outline and a black banner across it that says "FIVE" in a serif font. A small "TM" trademark symbol is to the right of the "V".

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### YEAR REVIEWED

Not to sound clichéd or anything, but where on Earth has 2014 gone?

What will we remember it for when we look back? Will it be the last time we'll ever see the rand breach the 10:1 mark to the U.S. dollar? Was it the year you finally bought that Rolex you had your eye on for almost a decade? Or was it the year you

finally proposed to some lucky (obviously) lady? Lamborghini gave us the Huracán, Richard Mille gave us the RM 35-01, Louis Vuitton paid homage to monogram, and our beloved Springboks smashed the All Blacks in our own backyard for, what seemed to be, the first time in forever. It's been a pretty incredible year, and if 2014 is anything to go by, 2015 is going to give us even more incredible cars, jaw-dropping watches, head-turning threads, and that William Webb Ellis Cup. Have a crazy December, and bottoms up to 2014!

**Dirk Steenekamp**  
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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# ARENA

## Ashley Alexiss

She gets more “likes” on one Instagram selfie than the mighty McLaren P1. Sigh... no prizes for guessing why.

**Astrological Sign** Sagittarius

**Instagram** @AshAlexiss

**Job** Self-employed digital marketer, and full-time graduate student.

**Don't pound your chest, don't you dare catcall, get my attention by making me laugh, and by having a contagious smile.**

**The craziest thing I've done that would warrant a brain scan is a spur-of-the-moment, 4350 km road trip. I mean, honestly! Who wants to drive that far?**

**My girl crush is Coco, because those curves are mindblowing. Plus, she's so inspiring!**

**My screensaver is of penguins... they make me happy. I'd rather get a sensual massage from Freddy Krueger than have a guy grow a full-blown beard. I may lose a few points for this (lol!). If I HAD to spend**

**a million pounds in a day, it would be on shoes and penguins, because those two things totally go together!**

**My favourite movie villain is Catwoman, because who doesn't love a woman in a latex catsuit?**

**I have a bad habit of changing outfits 45 times before finding one I'm completely satisfied with.**

**The worst Christmas gift I ever got was an entire bag full of knee-high socks from my grandmother, when I was about 5 years old. Mind you, they were for adults. It's the thought that counts, right?**

**My pet peeve is negativity! I'm way too happy to deal with someone who tries to turn everything into something negative. Life is too short.**

**When I'm alone, I tend to sleep a lot! I'm constantly working, so when I'm alone, I'm usually attempting to take a solid nap.**





photograph by ROBERT SLEEPER





# 911 EMERGENCY

by **JOHN PAGE**

## FAREWELL SLS

Childish sobbing was heard throughout *Maxim's* Motoring section as the plug was pulled on Merc's fierce SLS, giving way to a lighter and more agile kickboxer, now known as the GT. The SLS, harking back to the 300SL Gullwing, made many realise that this was a company that built more than the coma-inducing C-Class, and it soon earned a reputation for pounding rear tyres and draining gallons of juice with every loud "baaaaarp" of the throttle. Time has moved on, and unlike its co-developed forebear,

the new GT will be entirely developed by AMG, eschewing the Benz tag from its name. Things just got serious.

## HOT VEE

That's the lingo Merc insiders use to refer to the new engine. Those who have never grappled with the 6.2-litre, V8 engine might never get a chance to, as it gets tipped into the grave along with the SLS, because it's apparently too offensive for this self-conscious world. The V8 lives on, but this time two turbochargers boost it. In layman's





terms, the new rig is the same engine you would find lurking under the bonnet of the potent A45 AMG, but it's doubled up with another and thumping in unison. It's guaranteed to make your glasses fog up, and the pressure is on because the entire future of the AMG rests on this hand-built trade, so there's no room for mediocrity. The C63 is next up.

#### 911. F-TYPE. YOU'RE NEXT.

Somewhere in AMG's head office you will find the naked chassis of a 911 and an

F-Type, which the engineers have deeply examined before claiming that their GT will be just as good. It's not an enviable task, and many have come up short. The SLS was considered to be too "off the grid" as a sports car, and AMG wants their new baby to be more relevant. Less costly, more efficient, and easier to thrash. That's the memo. During the process, the gullwing doors were deemed unnecessarily difficult to close (we don't know who came up with that tragic idea), but the rest of it should be a fitting tribute to a legendary car and engine.

#### CLEVER TECH

The GT is the first car with dynamic engine and gearbox mounts. If either of these were a cup of water, they would stay perfectly steady no matter what. Each can counter-balance and support within milliseconds, reducing every movement. That's about 200 kilos of galvanised mass running through the centre of your spine; it's the stuff race teams dream about.

# Lamborghini Asterion



There's an unusual noise coming from the Lamborghini shed. Silence. That's because the last salvation for pure petrol headiness is under threat with the first ever hybrid Lambo (two conflicting words used to describe the latest Asterion).

Like Ferrari, McLaren, and even Porsche,

the electric revolution was always going to strike down on Lambo's supply of V10 ammo. So, do you rush off, buy the Huracan, and hold it close? Or do you upgrade your Eskom account? Both, if you can. Balance some yin and yang. Lamborghini sees no other option than hybrids in the future, but they are not

about to build a Prius either. Sure, they've thrown some water on the style to mellow it, but the details syphon off the Aventador's race-inspired, carbon body.

Electric motors matching the grunt of a Golf GTI are wired to the front wheels, with another between the engine and the clutch. The rear axle does most of the shunting from the same 5.2-litre V10 engine that is still warm from the Huracan.

This quadruple mash-up becomes a brand-saving, addictive combination, and it needs to be, because all that extra voltage makes this one fat bull. The Asterion remains three years from ready, but the sun is setting on the mechanical bull.

## SPECS

**ENGINE:** 5.2-litre V10 plug-in hybrid  
**POWER AND TORQUE:** 678kW/560Nm  
**0-100KM/H:** 3.0 seconds  
**PRICE:** R12 million (estimation)  
**BUY IT FOR:** Still a V10

# Volkswagen XL Sport

In cahoots with VW and Ducati, at first this seems like an unlikely collaboration, but give it some time and... brainwave! This is the modern take on a sidecar, redeeming itself by not forcing your girlfriend to lean into oncoming traffic.

As the first usable product since VW and Audi, the XL Sport was VW's most fuel-efficient car, and remains the authority in terms of power to weight. Toss the V12 for a petite two-cylinder from the Panigale, which asks for huge kahunas on a bike, but on a car, gives you the freedom to nip around in slops and a vest.

It's small enough to pop out of a Christmas cracker, but it still has enough metal presence, so some truck driver won't squash you when you turn into his blind spot.

Replace a twistgrip with regular pedals, and the 890-kilogram XL Sport whistles to eleven grand for a truly bewitching performance. Don't take our word for it, but this is the fastest car with the puniest engine on sale today.

We imagine things get a bit hairy once you pile on speed, which is why a Lamborghini spoiler dominates the boot lid and wide tyres have been fitted.

## SPECS

**ENGINE:** 1.2-litre V-twin Ducati  
**POWER AND TORQUE:** 147kW/134Nm  
**0-100KM/H:** 5.8 seconds  
**PRICE:** N/A  
**BUY IT FOR:** Bike-parking benefits







## Jaguar XE

Jaguar has its crosshairs on the 3 Series and the C-Class, after previous attempts that only managed to attract grumpy pensioners who buy cars based on the wood trim. But see, the thing about cats is that they always land on their feet, and come 2015, the XE will be ready to pounce.

Bad puns aside, when the F-Type's lousy boot requires you to jump on it several times before it'll close, the XE comes with all the British shagadelicness of Mike Myers in an *Austin Powers* flick.

"Aluminium," Jag's prized word of the year. Every car is packed with aluminium, which results in a saloon that's light, but firmer than Yorkshire pudding, while engines will mimic the smaller diesel trends. But being Jag, they've slipped in a throaty, V6, supercharged lump, drawing a sword

against AMG. That's what we're after.

And not forgetting some 007 gadgets to fuss over, the new XE can be started via your cellphone, along with remotely setting the climate, or pilfering Wi-Fi through the XE's hotspot. We should probably mention that nothing else comes close to its airy leather and bold styling.

### SPECS

**ENGINE:** 3.0-litre V6 supercharged petrol

**POWER AND TORQUE:** 250kW/450Nm

**0-100KM/H:** 5.7 seconds

**PRICE:** R620 000 (estimation)

**BUY IT FOR:** F-Type Sedan



## Ducati Monster 1200 S

by **DARREN FRESCO**

"The Monster," they call it that because it is everything that the name suggests. Initially, I thought it was going to be hard to beat its predecessor, the 1100 EVO; but it's done that, and then some, with a few sacrifices of course. It is a bit heavier, so you'll be slightly slower when shifting the bike around.

The older EVO was 169 kg (dry weight), vs. the 1200's 182kg (dry weight). But with the sacrifice of adding extra weight comes the addition of lots more power. As well as going from the L-twin, to the Testastretta, its transition from air-cooled, to liquid-cooled has changed the way the bike behaves. The monumental shift in power will literally blow your hair back. The power has "shifted" from 73.5kW at 7 500rpm, to 106.6kW at 8 750rpm. The displacement has also gone from 1078cc, to 1198cc... it's going to be one Hell of a ride.

The Monster has 3 different riding modes, Urban, Touring, and Sport, which match whatever conditions you're in and can be fully customised. The clutch is now a wet, multi-plate clutch with hydraulic control, unlike some of the older bikes with dry clutches. But enough of the stats, let's look at what it's like to ride it.

Starting the bike feels like walking into a candy store for the first time, an excitement you simply cannot contain.

You are in a very comfortable riding position, not too high, so your wrists aren't strained, and not too low, so you won't fall asleep. It has torque right from the beginning, and it feels like you are sitting on a rocket, a very comfortable rocket. Going through the gears is incredibly smooth, and the acceleration is relentless from the start.

All in all, it's one of the best bikes out right now, because you can scoot around town, or run with the superbikes.



# WHISKY BUSINESS

Wanna be down with the brown? Sip on this guide to instant whisky wisdom.

by LAUREN VIERA

Whiskies are a lot like women, there are just so many different kinds to fall in love with. Think of the honeyed curves of bourbon; the smoky sophistication of single-malt Scotch; the delicate allure of a Japanese blend. With so many good whiskies in the world, it can be hard to stray from that go-to glass. Here's a quick and easy guide to whiskies that's bound to go down smooth.





**T**  *Nicky Hayden*

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## AMERICAN WHISKY



### 1. BOURBON

Made from a grain mixture of at least 51 percent corn, the American spirit is aged in charred, new, oak barrels, and bottled at no less than 80 proof.

**TASTE:** Mildly sweet with rich undertones.

**TWO TO TRY:** Knob Creek, R395; [whisky.co.za](http://whisky.co.za)  
Evan Williams Single Barrel, R389; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)

### 2. RYE

Rye is like bourbon's rough-hewn brother. It has a bit of sweetness, but kicks the back of your throat with its spicy flavour, courtesy of the rye grain.

**TASTE:** Young batches are spicy and grainy; older ones can be redolent of pepper and mint.

**TWO TO TRY:** Templeton Rye, R723; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
Wild Turkey Rye, R389; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)

### 3. TENNESSEE

Jack Daniel's isn't bourbon... but it might as well be. The only difference between bourbon and Tennessee whisky is the charcoal mellowing, a filtration step in which unaged whisky is steeped in sugar-maple, charcoal chips before going into barrels for aging.

**TASTE:** Mellow with hints of sweet corn.  
**TWO TO TRY:** George Dickel No. 12, R1 697; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
Gentleman Jack, R289; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)

### 4. SINGLE MALT

The youngest breed of American bourbon is made in the Scottish tradition (heating pregerminated malt barley, as opposed to distilling a grain mash), but many distillers are barreling it in fresh casks, adding an oaky taste to the final batch.

**TASTE:** Robust, malty, and full of flavour with a dry finish.

**TWO TO TRY:** Westland American Single Malt, R910; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
St. George Single Malt, R764; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)

## SCOTTISH WHISKY



### 1. SINGLE MALT

This is made from malted barley at a single distillery, and aged in previously used, oak barrels (which contained sherry, or port) for at least three years. The flavour varies depending on the region. Single malts from the Scottish Highlands are sweet and smooth, and those made on Islay, where the malted barley is heated with peat, are smokier.

**TASTE:** Wildly diverse. One could be light with grassy notes and hints of dried fruit, and another may be full-bodied, with touches of chocolate, sherry, and smoke.

**TWO TO TRY:** Balvenie Caribbean Cask, R799; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
Balvenie DoubleWood, R1 399; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)

### 2. BLENDED

This is the most popular type of Scotch, a mixture of one or more single malts from various distilleries, blended for consistency. Blended whiskies could contain as many as 40 varieties, and their age reflects that of the youngest Scotch featured.

**TASTE:** Depends on the blend, but most are characterised by an even-keeled sweetness, with less intensity than single malts.

**TWO TO TRY:** Johnnie Walker Double Black, R650; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)  
Grant's, R198; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)



## IRISH WHISKY



1



2

### 1. SINGLE MALT

Irish single malts are pretty much made the same way as Scotch, from malted grains distilled and aged by a single distillery. But since they're almost always distilled at least twice, Irish single malts are a bit smoother. They're also usually aged in unused, oak barrels, or those that previously held sherry.

**TASTE:** Clean and balanced. They're sweeter than bourbon, but not as complex as Scotch.

**TWO TO TRY:** Redbreast 15 Year Old, R899; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)  
Powers John's Lane 12 Year Old Single Pot Still, R659; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)

### 2. BLENDED

Irish blends are made from several single malts, mixed with other whiskies for balance and consistency. Some are aged, others are not, but all possess a distinct flavour profile. Blended Irish whiskies are more nuanced than many diehard Jameson aficionados might assume.

**TASTE:** Sweet and simple, with a rugged finish.

**TWO TO TRY:** Kilbeggan Irish Whisky, R362; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
Powers Gold Label, R596; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)

## JAPANESE WHISKY



### THE ASCENDANT SPIRIT

Like Scotch? Chances are you'll like Japanese whisky, an increasingly popular spirit that is similarly distilled, and comes as a single malt, or in blended varieties.

**TASTE:** Smoky, smooth, and elegantly refined.

**TWO TO TRY:** Yamazaki 12 Year Single-Malt, R907; [whiskymarketplace.co.za](http://whiskymarketplace.co.za)  
Nikka Coffey Grain, R499; [bottleshop.co.za](http://bottleshop.co.za)

### ABOUT THAT "E"

The spelling of the spirit varies from country to country. America and Ireland spell it as "whiskey," while Scotland, Japan, and we here in South Africa insist that it's "whisky."

## WHISKY GLOSSARY



### STRAIGHT WHISKY

For bourbons and ryes to be considered "straight," they must be aged for at least two years in American, oak barrels.



### CASK STRENGTH

This stamp means that the whisky was not diluted with water after being removed from the cask, therefore, it has a higher alcohol content.



### MASH

A mixture of cooked grains, and water. Yeast is added to this in order to begin fermentation.



### PEAT

A mosslike material that's heated under the grain, giving Scotch its smoky character.



### SMALL-BATCH BOURBONS

Those that have been mixed together from a few different barrels for consistency.



### POT STILL

The copper container in which whisky is distilled.

# DINING LIKE A KING

For a measly R100 000, you get to taste the most rare dishes and drinks; afterwards, you'll probably think twice before heading to the men's room.

by FARAI MAKONI



You could do a number of things with R100 000, like buy a Rolex Submariner, or buy an engagement ring to appease his nagging girlfriend. One thing's for sure, though... spending the entire stack on a luxurious dinner is *not* on your list.

But we're living in the 21st century, a century of obscene wealth, and with R100 000, you can buy dinner at Masters of Taste, a collaboration between The Macallan whisky and restaurant El Celler de Can Roca, in Girona, Spain. Sure, it's broke bloke blasphemy, putting the "whine" in "wine and

dine," but there are lots of chaps with pockets ripping from the seams, bursting with cash, willing to pour out R100 000 for this experience.

This dining experience features 14 courses of the mightiest, mouthwatering meals paired with liquid luxury, 14 of The Macallan's most rare whiskies that inspired the dishes. Ten of the whiskies served here are so rare, they'll never be released, and it's best that they're sipped slower than that beer you bought at the bar with your last R20 note. Adding to the exclusivity, the food served will never be replicated, not at the El Celler de Can Roca, or at any other restaurant. Fat cats will also be able to visit the kitchen, cellar, and other parts of the restaurant in order to gain a better appreciation of the space, or in layman's terms, to see where their money is going.

The El Celler de Can Roca, owned by the Roca brothers, gives a potent dosage of brilliance for every buck, having earned three Michelin stars since 2009, along with being voted the best restaurant in the world by 900 international restaurant and industry experts. The Macallan is also a renowned brand, not only breaking banks, but also a Guinness World Record when a 6-litre, crystal decanter of The Macallan M sold for about R6,8 million during an auction in Hong Kong. Yes, The Macallan is the perfect whisky to wash down your R100 000. Guests at the dinner get to go home with twelve 50ml bottles made up of ten of the whiskies, including the record-breaking Macallan M.

If you're a South African burdened by barrels of big bucks in a Burberry wallet, you can look forward to South African Masters of Taste. The Macallan is currently planning this event with exclusive chefs and restaurants in South Africa, and the full details will be released by the end of 2014. ■






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## MAKE A STRAWBERRY MUG CAKE

This decadent treat is packed with protein and tastes like a summer's dream!

*Serving: Single mug cake*

### INGREDIENTS

#### MUG CAKE:

- 1 tablespoon of oat flour
- 1 tablespoon of coconut flour
- 1 tablespoon of vanilla protein powder
- 1/2 teaspoon of baking powder
- 1 tablespoon of PB2 (powdered peanut butter)
- 3 tablespoons of water
- 1/2 tablespoon of Greek yoghurt
- 1 whole egg

#### STRAWBERRY FILLING:

- 2 tablespoons of Greek yogurt
- 2 small chopped strawberries
- 1 tablespoon of vanilla protein powder

### METHOD

1. Place all mug cake ingredients into a bowl and mix until smooth.
2. Pour the batter into a microwave safe mug and cook on high for 1 to 1.5 minutes.
3. Turn the mug upside down and allow the mug cake to cool on a plate.
4. Blend the strawberry filling ingredients together.
5. Cut the mug cake into half and top with the strawberry filling as desired.
6. Enjoy!



**Andene Thomson** is a 23-year-old, smoking-hot food guru, and she's also a USN Fitness Model and Ambassador. Find her at [healthygirl.co.za](http://healthygirl.co.za)





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# HOW TO MASTER THE STAIRS

The perfect workout for those who may be away from the gym, but have access to stairs.

## **DO 10 SPRINTS (10-15 STEPS).**

Run up, walk down, and do the next sprint immediately.

## **PUSHUPS.**

Place your feet about 4 steps up, and do 4 sets of 30 reps.

## **DO 10 FROG JUMPS.**

Jump two steps at a time, and land with your hands and feet on the stairs at the same time. Walk down, and immediately go into your next set.

## **STEP BOX JUMPS.**

Aim for the highest step you can reach. Jump, land, turn around, and jump back down. Perform the jumps 5 times, resting for 30 seconds after each minute.

## **MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS.**

Try to use two steps with each leg, in order to get a maximum stretch, reaching your quads.

## **STEP JUMPS.**

Keep your feet close together, and jump each step, one by one, until you reach the top. Rinse and repeat 5 times.



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# INNOVATIVE TRAINING

Although some holiday resorts have a small room meant for training, a lot of them don't really focus on that, because they believe that when people are on holiday, they should rest. But don't worry, because we'll make sure that you get your training fix by using what's around you. Beware... you are going to get funny looks.



## ITEMS YOU WILL NEED:

- Beached log or:
- An empty gym bag
- Empty, 2-litre water bottles
- Sand, dirt, or water

## PREPARATION:

- Fill water bottles with sand, dirt, or water

## EXERCISE 1: OVERHEAD SQUATS

Use the log or gym bag with your sand-filled water bottles inserted for weight; adjust the weight according to your fitness level. Hold the bag in the air with your arms extended, and squat all the way down. This is great for your quads, as well as your core, and balance.



## EXERCISE 2: DEADLIFTS

Use the log or gym bag with your sand-filled water bottles; adjust the weight according to your fitness level. Hold the bag with both hands, preferably standing on something in order to give you height, allowing you to go all the way down. This will work your hamstrings, as well as your back.



## EXERCISE 3: BICEPS CURLS & TRICEPS EXTENSIONS

Use log or sand-filled water bottles, and curl, or press like you would with a normal dumbbell. The weight may be slightly less than what you're used to, so look at doing higher reps.



# AVERAGE THINKS LIBIDO IS A BOY BAND FROM MEXICO

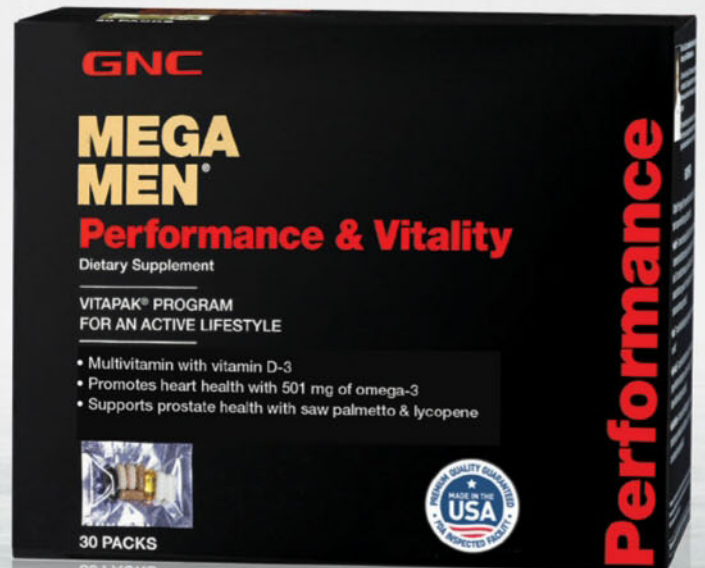
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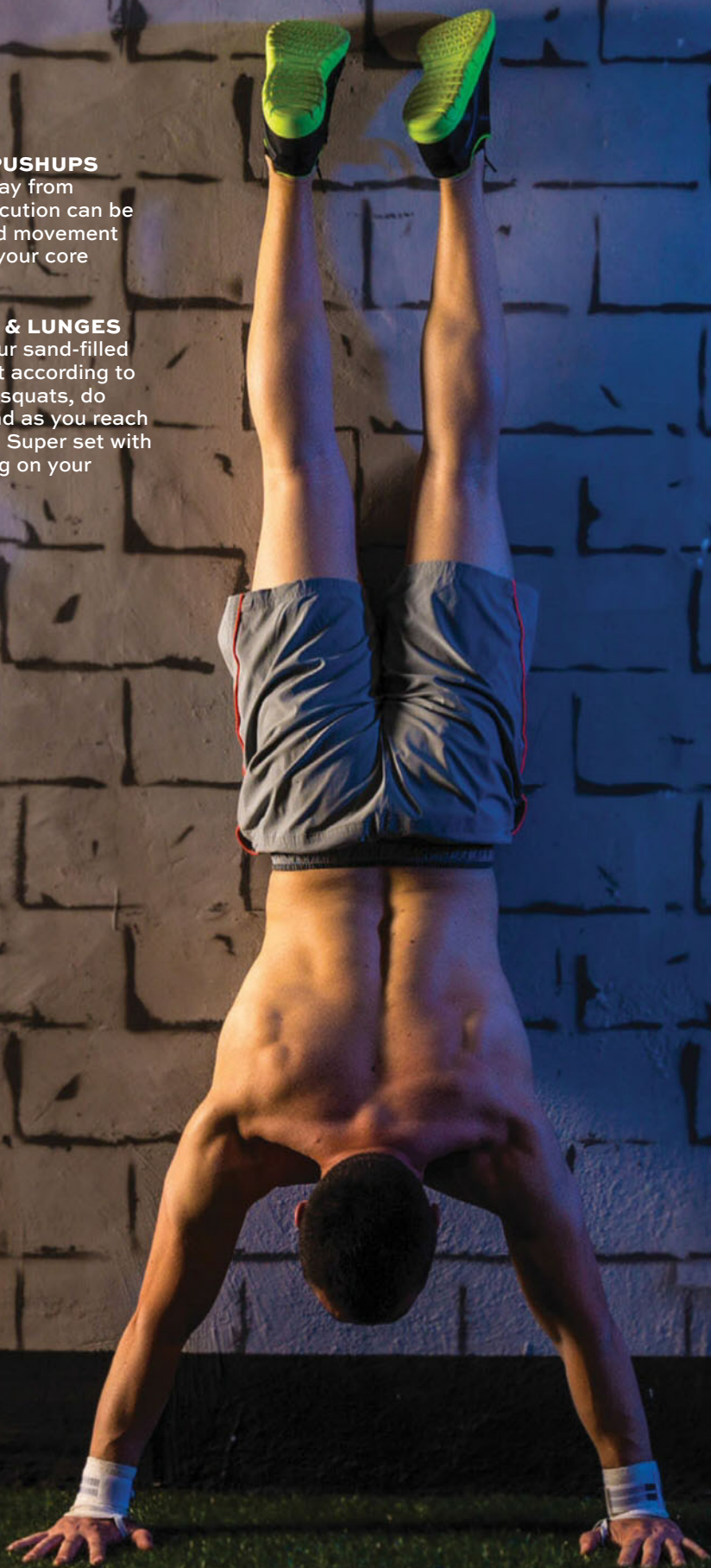
\* This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

#### **EXERCISE 4: HANDSTAND PUSHUPS**

Use a wall for balance (stay away from passageways, because the execution can be tricky). This is a slow, controlled movement that's also great for improving your core strength.

#### **EXERCISE 5: JUMP SQUATS & LUNGES**

Use the log or gym bag with your sand-filled water bottles; adjust the weight according to your fitness level. For the jump squats, do slow, controlled movements, and as you reach the top part, explode and jump. Super set with walking lunges, resting your bag on your shoulders.





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Garreth "Soldierboy" Mclellan  
 EFC Africa Middleweight Champion



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# PACK CORRECTLY

It's December, you're away from your supplement cupboard, and your normal routine has been put on the back burner. But all of that doesn't mean that your body should pay the ultimate price. Here's a quick guide to what you should always have with you when you're on the road.

## WHEY PROTEIN BY OPTIMUM NUTRITION

Optimum Nutrition's 100% Whey Gold Standard has won "Supplement of the Year" more times than the average brain can recall; so, you cannot go without it, ever. Plus, there's no need to pack the entire tub. Measure each day's servings, keeping them in a separate container. Now, you can replenish after your morning (gawk) run on the Sea Point promenade.



## BSN N.O.-XPLODE

In terms of pre-workout preparations, it's still the biggest name, and the new formula, now on sale in South Africa, has been tweaked ever so slightly, giving you even more from your workout. Fun game... take a scoop and challenge your significant other up Lion's Head. Loser makes breakfast ALL WEEK.



## BCAAs

You will need to feed your muscles to get them ready for the next workout. Biogen's BCAA Loaded is the perfect post-workout recovery product, formulated with a powerful blend of these BCAAs, as well as essential, complex key ingredients that assist in muscle sparing, and recovery. Again, measure out one scoop a day for the time you're away.



## GNC MEGA MEN

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## OLIMP THERMO SPEED

This right here... one of the best thermos on the market. It's pretty simple, you have to use it to experience what it can do, and the results it'll offer. Olimp Thermo Speed is great to use when you need an energy boost, and to focus for your workout.

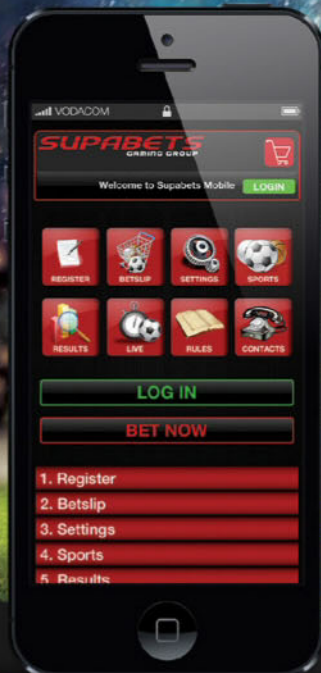




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# MODUS

THE STYLISH MAN

## BECOME A SMOOTH OPERATOR

It takes more than hot water and a piece of multi-bladed plastic to be the best-groomed guy on your street.

By MATT CHRISTENSEN

### LOOK SHARP

Three-piece suit (jacket not shown), Hickey Freeman. Dress shirt, Tommy Hilfiger. Burgundy, knit tie, Astor & Black. Socks, Falke. Black Oxfords, Allen Edmonds. On Her: Marni bodysuit, Cosabella. Earrings, Aldo. Shoes, Jimmy Choo.



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## A SHAVE SHE'LL CRAVE

HOW TO BE TROUBLE-FREE WHEN IT COMES TO LIVING STUBBLE-FREE.

### 1. BRING THE HEAT

Always try to shave after a hot shower, because the moisture will soften your skin, and open your pores. No time for a shower? Martial Vivot, owner of a renowned salon, has a quick-fix solution. He suggests wetting a hand towel, wringing it out, and placing it in the microwave for 20 seconds. When it's good and warm,

press it to your face. A few drops of lavender oil added to the cloth will relax the skin even more.

### 2. SCRUB

If you are prone to breakouts, consider using a face wash with microbeads, which will better infiltrate your pores. Squeeze a little bit of the soap onto your hands, and then rub your face in a gentle, circular motion, so that

you don't irritate the ole epidermis. "And be sure to clean your neck," says Vivot, "That's where most ingrown hairs are likely to occur."

### 3. MOISTURISE

The ideal shave needs a few strokes. To make the most of each swipe, you want your skin to be nice and slick. Choose a moisturiser based on the type of razor you own. If you wield one with two blades or less, opt for a cream with a thicker consistency. Three blades or more? Go lighter. "Anything denser will create deposits between the blades," says Vivot, "You'll make the razor difficult to rinse, and the shave less effective."

### 4. LATHER UP

Spread the shaving cream on top of the moisturiser. Apply it with

two fingers in a circular motion. This will not only coax your stubble into standing tall, but it will also soften it up in preparation for a quick, painless death. "A good lather means creating a layer that doesn't have time to dry," says Vivot. Use a generous helping of product, assuming that half of it will remain on your face, while the rest gets absorbed by the skin.

### 5. SHAVE

Start by shaving with the grain, and then progress from right to left, left to right, and finally, against the grain. Stretch your skin with your fingers to keep it as flat as possible, and leave your 'stache for last. "You want to let the shaving cream sink into the areas where the whiskers grow the thickest," says Vivot.

## YOUR ARSENAL



Bluebeards Revenge Pre-Shave Oil, **R250 for 125ml;** [mortality.co.za](http://mortality.co.za)



Nickel Super Clean Facial Scrubbing Gel, **R320 for 125ml;** [mortality.co.za](http://mortality.co.za)



Billy Jealousy Shaved Ice After-Shave Balm, **R340 for 100ml;** [mortality.co.za](http://mortality.co.za)



Bluebeards Revenge Luxury Shaving Cream, **R250 for 100ml;** [mortality.co.za](http://mortality.co.za)

PRO TIP

WHEN IT COMES TO POST-SHAVE CONDITIONING, TWO THINGS MATTER... SKIN TYPE, AND TEMPERATURE. GREASY SKIN? STYLIST MARTIAL VIVOT SAYS, "WHEN YOUR SKIN IS OILY, STICK TO ALCOHOL-BASED PRODUCTS, BECAUSE THEY HELP DRY IT OF NATURAL OILS." IF YOUR SKIN IS ALREADY DRY, OR THE WEATHER IS SUCKING OUT ITS MOISTURE, USE A THICKER SHAVE BALM, WHICH WILL REHYDRATE YOUR SKIN.



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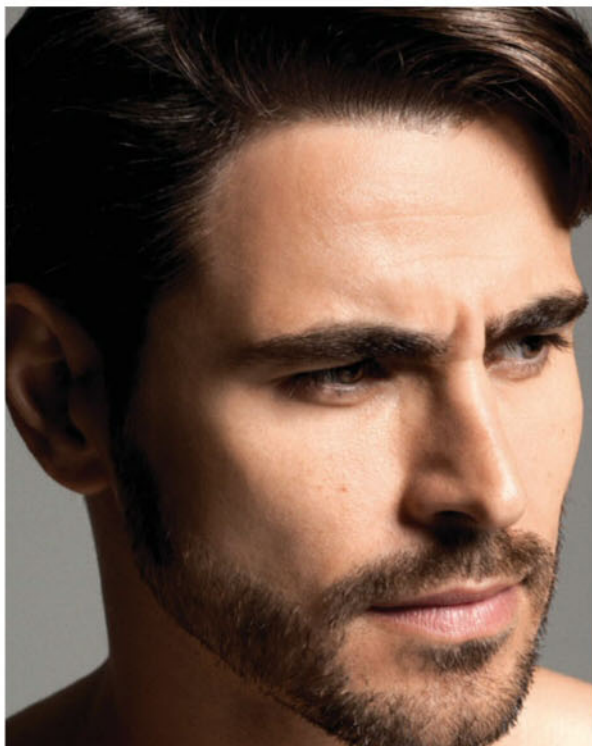
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# AT CINEMAS 2 JANUARY '15



## UN-WEIRD YOUR BEARD

UNLESS YOU'RE GOING GALIFIANAKIS, EVERY TYPE OF FACIAL FOLLICLE, BE IT A FIVE O'CLOCK SHADOW, OR A WELL-KEPT CARPET, REQUIRES SPECIAL ATTENTION.

### 1. KNOW THYSELF

Before you pick up the clippers, take a look at your face, and note the manner in which your beard is growing. Study the pattern and sculpt accordingly, paying attention to that little voice inside your head. If you don't think a beard will look good on you, chances are it won't.

### 2. KEEP IT SANE

When all is said and done, your whiskers should stretch no longer than a #5 clipper will allow. Use a bit of beard oil three days a week to maintain softness.

### 3. PATROL THE BORDERS

You want to look sophisticated, not slovenly, and that requires vigilance. Carefully

protect the edges of your beard with a razor, lopping off any hairs that dare to reach outside the perimeter.

### 4. LIP SERVICE

No matter what style of beard you choose, make sure that your mouth always remains visible (it's one of your best features). Using tweezers, snatch up any encroaching hairs. And while you're at it, prune the strays in your nose, too (she'll thank you for it).

### 5. USE YOUR TONGUE

Certain spots on your face, like, say, the patch that sports your moustache,

are difficult to reach with a pair of clippers, which means that they are often groomed unevenly. Apply an exfoliator to raise the hairs, and then press your tongue against your upper lip to push out the skin, and make it easier to access.

### 6. GET HOT

Whether you're snipping stray hairs, performing a quick trim, or embarking on a major makeover, it's always best to do so after a warm shower. A moisture-rich shampoo also works well with the intense heat to soften your hair, open pores, and keep your face clean.

## FIND THE BEARD THAT FITS YOUR FACE



### ROUND

You'll want a beard that softens the curves. Keep your chin short, and stick with thicker borders from the sideburns down, to give the appearance of a strong jawline.



### SQUARE

If you're blessed with this type of chin, keep the length of your beard short, as too much growth will overshadow the natural lines of your face, and make you look soft.



### LONG

Opt for a beard that's fuller on the sides than it is around the mouth. This will accentuate the various planes of your face, bringing it all into proportion.

## DAILY ESSENTIALS



Marc Anthony Oil of Morocco Shampoo, **R84 for 250ml;** [takealot.com](http://takealot.com)



The Gentleman's Beard Oil, **R120 for 30ml;** [hashtagawesome.co.za](http://hashtagawesome.co.za)



Clarins Men Super Moisture Gel, **R620 for 50ml;** [bidorbuy.co.za](http://bidorbuy.co.za)



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# WOZA DECEMBER!

Sweltering nights, Florida Road adorned with Ferraris, rainbow coloured cocktails at Caprice on an early Wednesday afternoon, wafts of sunscreen and bronzer in the air, accompanied by bikini clad Aphrodites wearing Audrey Hepburn inspired sunglasses. Summer in SA is in full swing and we here at **Maxim** have put together the essential style elements to make your holiday feel like an endless summer...



photography by AUBREY JOHNSON  
styling by CHANTELE MIRANDA





**CLOCKWISE FROM  
TOP LEFT**

U-Boat, R40 000  
Bulova, R11 000  
TW Steel, R10 500  
Ball, R68 950  
Bomberg, R8 500  
TW Steel, R11 500



**THIS PAGE; CLOCKWISE FROM  
TOP LEFT**

Spicebomb Victor&Rolf,  
R995 for 50ml  
Chrome Azzaro, R595 for  
50ml  
Lacoste Live, R865 for 100ml  
Polo Red Ralf Lauren, R919  
for 75ml  
Guess Night, R650  
Aqua Di Gio Giorgio Armani  
Essenza, R1 095 for 75ml  
Boss Hugo Boss Bottled,  
R750 for 50ml

Amen Pure Energy Thierry  
Mugler Limited Edition,  
R860 for 100ml  
Dolce & Gabbana Pour  
Homme, R1 100 for 125ml

**Bracelets:**

Speedometer Official, R3 000  
(red and blue)  
Speedometer Official, R3 500  
(black)





**THIS PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT**

Vichy Capital Soleil SPF50 Hydrating Milk, R380 for 300ml  
 Tropitone SPF30, R91 for 125ml  
 Eucerin Sun Lotion Extra Light Body 50, R180 for 150ml  
 Clarins Sun Wrinkle Control Face 15 UVB/UVA, R290 for 75ml

Nivea Sun Moisturising After Sun Spray, R60 for 200ml  
 Nivea Sun Protect & Refresh 30 UVB/UVA, R130 for 200ml  
 Garnier Ambre Solaire Clear Protect SPF30, R120 for 200ml  
 Nivea Protect & Refresh 30 UVB/UVA, R110 for 200ml





**THIS PAGE; CLOCKWISE FROM  
TOP LEFT**

Oakley, Luxottica R1 675  
VonZipper (green), R1 100  
VonZipper, R1 000

Lacoste, Moscon Optics R2 650  
Ray-Ban, Luxottica R2 060





**After Midnight...  
Awesome Happens**



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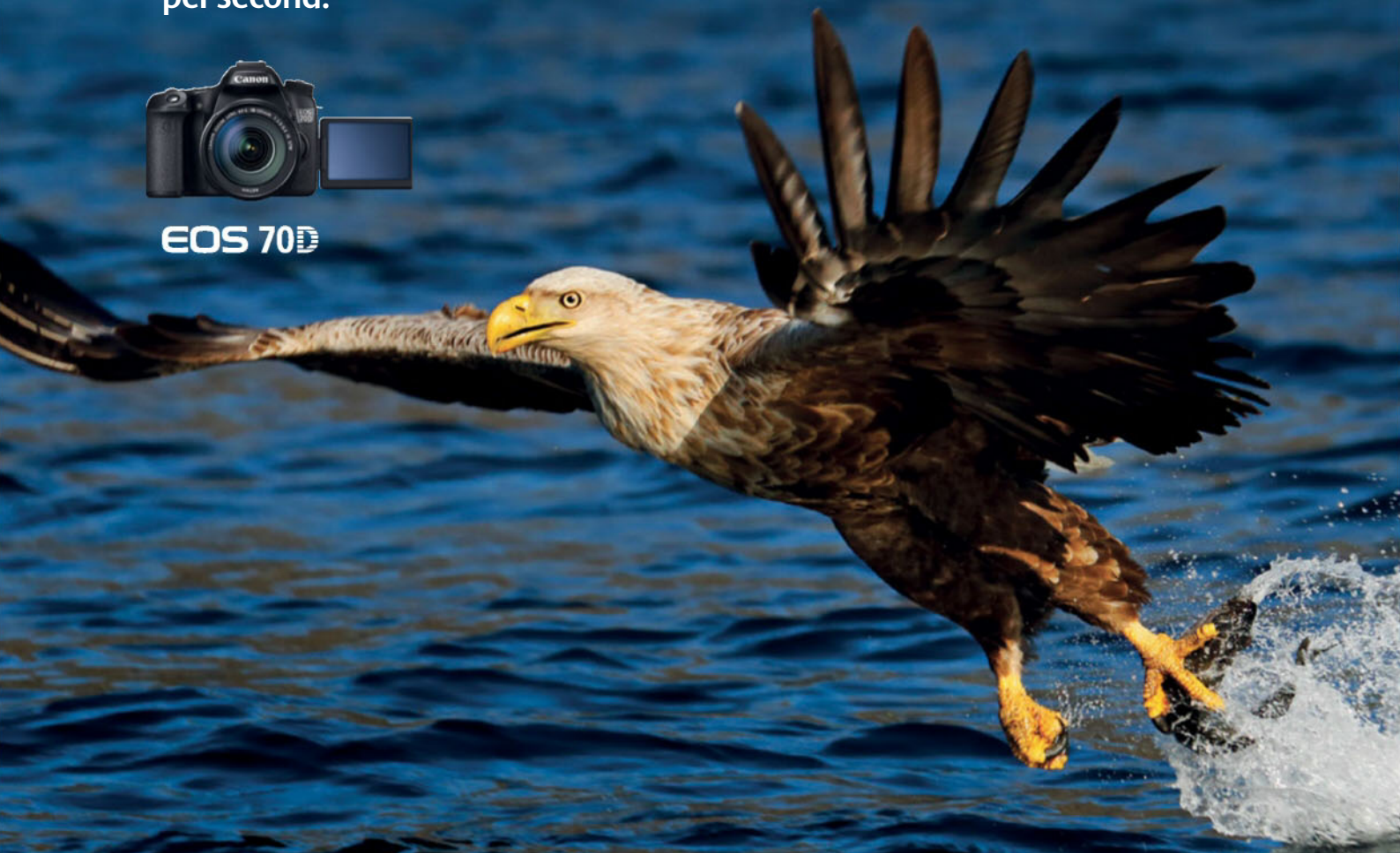


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# AGENDA

MAN WITH A PLAN

TRAVEL

**VEGAS, BABY!  
GO ALL IN FOR  
OUR INSIDER'S  
GUIDE TO  
THE SEXIEST  
SIN CITY  
NIGHTLIFE.**

by **MICHAEL KAPLAN**  
and **DEBBIE LEE**





## SIN IS IN

(From left) Dancers work the pole at Crazy Horse III; the one-thousand-and-plus punch bowl at the Downtown Cocktail Room.



## Hippest Haunts

NOT INTO VELVET ROPES AND EDM BEATS? HEAD DOWNTOWN TO THESE OFF-THE-STRIP HOT SPOTS.

Soak up a sexy, speakeasy vibe at the **DOWNTOWN COCKTAIL ROOM**. If you're rolling with a sizeable entourage, the \$114 (about R1 200) bowl of punch is a solid (liquid) investment.  
[thedowntownlv.com](http://thedowntownlv.com)

Buy that special someone a retro, girly drink (or three) at **FRANKIE'S TIKI ROOM**. Try the Mai Tai, or the more adventurous Mu'u Mu'u Mary (garnished with corned beef, and a hard-boiled, quail egg). Revel in the dim, smoky vibe of this Polynesian-themed dive.  
[frankiestikiroom.com](http://frankiestikiroom.com)

Hit **VELVETEEN RABBIT** for handcrafted cocktails like the Smokin' Granny, flavoured with jalapeño, coriander, and curry bitters. Expect weekly parties, and live music that caters to the cool set.  
[facebook.com/velveteenrabbitlv](https://facebook.com/velveteenrabbitlv)

For an exclusive evening of boozing, find the secret phone number to the **LAUNDRY ROOM**. This private lounge is perfect for impressing discerning dates.

## Skin City

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### SPEARMINT RHINO

This is a perfectly appropriate place to bring an adventurous lady friend for late-night cocktails, and lap dances. The only-in-Vegas happy "hour" lasts from 6 A.M. until 7 P.M., with drinks running at just \$4 (a measly R44).  
[spearmintrhinolv.com](http://spearmintrhinolv.com)

### CRAZY HORSE III

Operating as an after-hours bar, this is where superstar DJs Skrillex, Diplo, and Tiësto unwind after their sets at the megaclubs on the Strip. Free limo service to the club is available, but it's first-come, first-served, so booking at least 24 hours in advance is best.  
[crazyhorse3.com](http://crazyhorse3.com)

### SAPPHIRE

Sapphire stands out as the world's biggest strip club. There can be as many as 400 dancers peeling down over the course of a single night. For an even more surreal scene, check out Ping Pong Palooza, the club's annual topless table-tennis tournament.  
[sapphire.lasvegas.com](http://sapphire.lasvegas.com)

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Antonio Esfandiari,  
Ultimate Poker  
Brand Ambassador.



## WHEN IN VEGAS

**Bottle-service tables** can be booked up to a month in advance, so reserve a banquet on your preferred club's site as soon as you book your room.

**Leave a hot club** at 3 A.M. and the taxi line will be buzz-killingly long. Pay for a limo, or slip the valet a few bucks, and he'll whisk you to the front.

**If you need to** bribe your way into a club, give the door-man \$20 (around R220, for each person in your group (you'll still need to pay the entrance fee on top of that).

**Hit "Industry Night"** whenever it's advertised, because the crowd will be loaded with locals who party hard.

**The fewer guys in** your group, the less time you'll wait in line (duh). Dress well, in a button-down shirt, or fitted blazer, cool jeans, and, yes... good shoes.

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)





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## Essential Eats

FROM SWANKY STEAKHOUSES, TO GUT-BUSTING BUFFETS, HERE'S WHERE TO FUEL UP FOR A WILD WEEKEND IN VEGAS.

### DINNERS FOR WINNERS

For a proper sit-down with the boys, book a table at Tom Colicchio's **HERITAGE STEAK**. The ash-roasted bone marrow will sate your inner caveman with class. Or fill up at the **BACCHANAL BUFFET**. Its massive spread includes 500 items daily, and it practically requires a GPS to navigate. Just off the Strip, **THE BARRYMORE** celebrates old-school Vegas with stiff martinis, classic dishes (think steak béarnaise, and sweetbreads), and a mid-century motif worthy of Frank Sinatra.

### LATE-NIGHT BITES

Every weekend at **PHO KIM LONG**, gaggles of party girls in body-con dresses teeter on stilettos as they tuck into post-club, Vietnamese grub. Scenesters who prefer downtown Vegas will want an outdoor table at **LE THAI** to soak up the scene over pork jerky (basically, pork biltong), and beer. Back on the Strip, a local outpost of New York's **BROOKLYN BOWL** serves superb, Mexican pork rinds, and French-bread pizzas.

### THE MORNING AFTER

Cure a crippling hangover at **LA CAVE**, where the deli-style egg sandwich is a tasty restorative. If you're craving Mexican food, grab a poolside seat at **BORDER GRILL** for killer smoked brisket chilaquiles.



### FEAST YOUR EYES

(From top)  
The Mahogany Smoked Rib Platter Special at Rollin Smoke Barbeque; *Girls of the Playboy Mansion's* Holly Madison hits the lanes at Brooklyn Bowl.

### THE CHEF

**"VISIT ROSE RABBIT LIE AND ORDER THE CLOUDS BELOW HOKKAIDO (SOJU, NORI, YUZU, SAKE). IT'S SERVED ONLY IN A ROOM THEY CALL 'THE STUDY,' WHICH IS A SMALL BAR HIDDEN BEHIND A WALL."**

David Middleton, DB Brasserie.



## WHEN IN VEGAS



**Not in the mood** for a daytime nap? Marquee, Encore Beach Club, and Bare are three decadent, "day club" pool parties.

**If you want to** draw female attention to your nightclub table, order a big bottle of bubbly (the ladies love it!). Perrier-Jouët is a good deal.

**PartyPetition** is an iPhone app that lets you bid on what you're willing to spend at, and hope to get from, specific clubs. It also lists where the top DJs are spinning.

**Stay at the hotel** where your favourite club is located. Even if you don't have a table booked, the concierge should be able to organise line passes.



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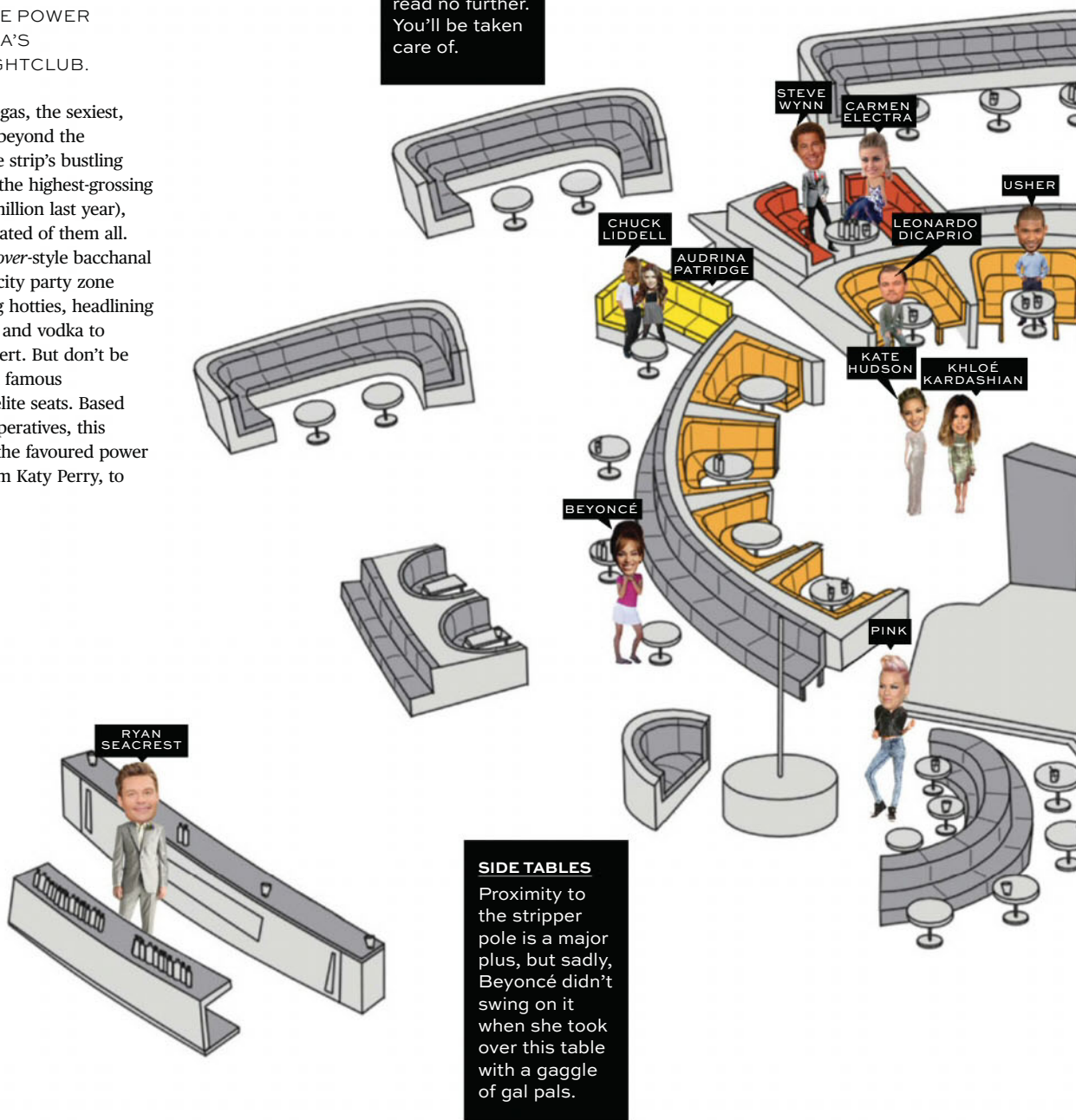
## The Life of XS

PARTY DOWN AT THE POWER TABLES OF AMERICA'S TOP-GROSSING NIGHTCLUB.

After midnight in Las Vegas, the sexiest, late-night action moves beyond the blackjack tables, into the strip's bustling megaclubs. XS ranks as the highest-grossing (it made around \$900 million last year), and most celebrity-saturated of them all. Guys hoping for a *Hangover*-style bacchanal flock to this 5,000-capacity party zone for throngs of holidaying hotties, headlining DJs, and enough bubbly and vodka to irrigate the Kalahari Desert. But don't be surprised if the rich and famous commandeer the most elite seats. Based on interviews with XS operatives, this seating chart spotlights the favoured power perches of everyone from Katy Perry, to LeBron James.

### OWNER'S TABLE

If you're hanging with owner Steve Wynn, well, read no further. You'll be taken care of.



### SIDE TABLES

Proximity to the stripper pole is a major plus, but sadly, Beyoncé didn't swing on it when she took over this table with a gaggle of gal pals.

### GET LUCKY!

CLUB INSIDERS ON HOW TO WIN BIG IN SIN CITY.

### BOOK A TABLE AS CLOSE TO THE DJ AS POSSIBLE

"That's where the action is," says Brandon Roque, a veteran club promoter, and marketing director at Crazy Horse III, "You'll get there by knowing the right hosts, or spending the right amount of money."

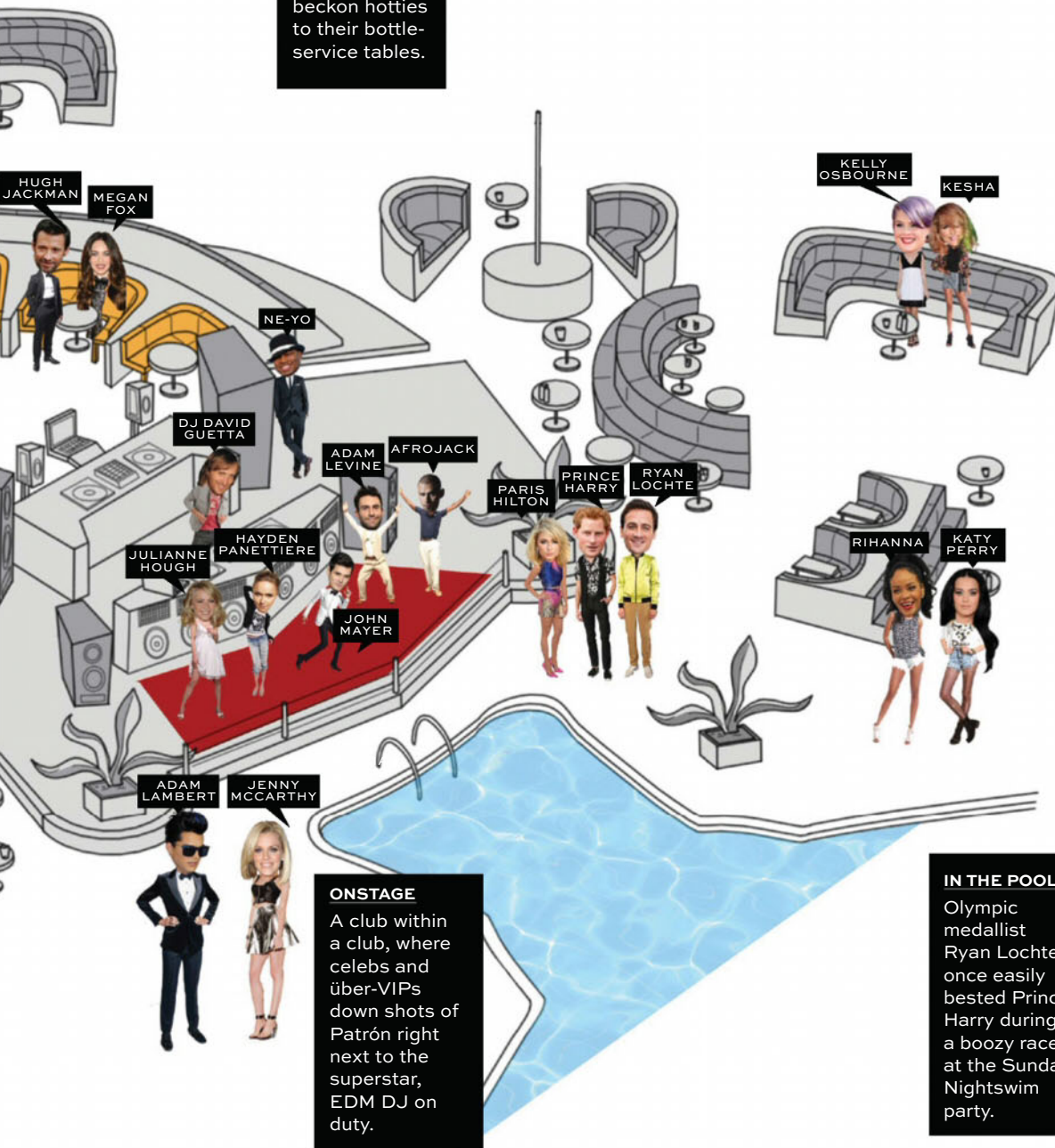
### DINE AT A CLUB-CONNECTED RESTAURANT

For XS, it's Botero; for Surrender, it's Andrea's; for Light, it's Kumi; for Marquee and Tao, it's Tao restaurant. "Before you're done eating, ask to see the manager, and request that he help with entry," says Jesse Waits, managing partner of XS.



**FRONT TABLE,  
ON THE DANCE  
FLOOR**

Prime spot for on-the-prowl dudes to beckon hotties to their bottle-service tables.



**OUTSIDE  
CABANA**

Favoured perch of Katy Perry and bestie Rihanna, who dig the private, second-floor spot's babe's-eye view of the DJ booth.

**ONSTAGE**

A club within a club, where celebs and über-VIPs down shots of Patrón right next to the superstar, EDM DJ on duty.

**IN THE POOL**

Olympic medallist Ryan Lochte once easily bested Prince Harry during a boozy race at the Sunday Nightswim party.

**UNLEASH YOUR BOTTLE-SERVICE HOST TO FIND GIRLS**

Once you've ordered that ice bucket full of booze, he'll happily recruit attractive ladies to help you drink it. If they're boring, he'll politely shuffle them away, and find a fresh set. "This is one situation in which guys call the shots," says VIP host Jay Farber, "There are lots of girls looking for tables, and free drinks."

**PARTY LIKE A VIP WITHOUT SPENDING LIKE JAY Z**

Roque says that if a group of 10 guys spend \$5,000 in total (around 50 grand), "They'll pretty much get what they want, and have a great time. Then, when their night at the club is over, they will get a party bus, and go to a strip club."

**THE HOT SEATS**

THE TOP FIVE SPOTS THAT WILL PUT YOU ON THE RICH AND FAMOUS' LEVEL.

1. Onstage behind the DJ. This is the most elite area at XS.
2. The owner's table.
3. The table in front of the owner's table.
4. The inner circle around the dance floor.
5. Either of the two tables flanking the owner's table (get in with Wynn, okay?).



Club XS

## Megaclub Confidential

XS ISN'T THE ONLY VEGAS BEHEMOTH WORTH BOOKING A TABLE AT. HERE'S THE LOWDOWN ON FIVE OTHER HOT SPOTS.

### DRAI'S

Besides affording an unbeatable view of the Strip, this fun house has a stunning interior of shiny black booths, mirrored columns, and crocodile upholstery adorning top-tier, VIP tables behind the DJ booth. Many clubs augment their bottle service with sparklers; at Drai's, those who drop enough cash get a full-on fireworks display over the Strip.

*draishv.com*

### LIFE

While top DJs such as Dirty South and Pete Tong provide the beats, bottle-service deliveries drop down from the ceiling at this dance den. A pair of VIP balconies are discreetly tucked away, and feature private entrances.

*lifenightclub.com*

### TAO

Seemingly naked, bathing beauties covered in rose petals welcome you as you head upstairs, where you'll see sexy aerialists, and throngs of glow-stick-waving revellers. The best table is on the dance floor, right next to the catwalk, where sexy dancers provide ample eye candy.

*taolasvegas.com*

### HAKKASAN

This is the home of Tiësto, Calvin Harris, and other roof-raising, EDM headliners. Among Hakkasan's staffers are "mood directors" who provide one-of-a-kind experiences for deep-pocketed customers. Score a booth onstage, right next to the DJ, for maximum baller status.

*hakkasanlv.com*

### LIGHT

Keep your eyes on the ceiling of this club, where Cirque du Soleil performers swoop from rope to rope, executing death-defying acrobatics. Snag a table next to the DJ for maximum attention, and spend big for über-VIP interactions with the aerialists.

*thelightvegas.com*

THE COCKTAIL  
CONNOISSEUR

**"SURRENDER IS KIND OF A WELL-KEPT SECRET, AS IT GETS LOST BEHIND XS. HAVE TARA MIX YOU ONE OF HER SIGNATURE MARGARITAS... YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED."**

Tony Abou-Ganim,  
author of *The Modern Mixologist*





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On 17 September 2013, the world came to a standstill as millions of people mysteriously became ill, unable to go to work. Coincidentally, it was also the day that *Grand Theft Auto V* (GTA V) was launched. Making over R10 billion in three days, it's no secret why GTA V has ruled the gaming world. The latest and greatest release, from legendary studio Rockstar Games, blew all of its competitors out of the water, and now, it's time for the next-gen consoles to have a go at the beast.

## HISTORY 101

## THE WORLD IS A BIG PLACE

## CHAOS THEORY

58



# WHAT'S NEW IN GTA V

Although the story remains the same in the next-gen version, *GTA V* is not the same game you played a year ago. The changes are astonishing, creating the ultimate experience for fans of the series. Here are 5 reasons you should get this game... like now.



## 1. VISUAL UPGRADE

The last-gen version of *GTA V* was beautiful, but the next-gen version is breathtaking. Los Santos has never looked this good, with more weapons, vehicles, activities, wildlife, traffic, and improved weather effects. *GTA* feels richer and more alive than ever before.

## 2. ONLINE IMPROVEMENTS

Expect absolute chaos as you and 29 maniacs go on rampages through the streets of Los Santos. In the last-gen version, the online feature was a bit wonky, plagued with connection issues; but the next-gen *GTA V* is a breeze. You can also transfer an online character from your last-gen console, to your next-gen console.

## 3. RETURNING REWARDS

Since most gamers played this game on Xbox 360, or PS3, Rockstar Games has been kind enough to throw in some extras for returning players. First up is the Random Events feature that unlocks exclusive, new vehicles. A new murder mystery is another addition, allowing you to play Michael, who follows a trail of cryptic clues that unravel a grisly murder. Exclusive weapons are always welcome, and Rockstar Games doesn't disappoint. All returning players will get the high-powered, high-velocity rail gun, and the brutal, close-combat hatchet.

## 4. NEW RADIO STATIONS

The hilarious radio stations, one of *GTA*'s mainstays, with over-the-top DJs, and amazing music. The next-gen version will come with new content, and music. You might think that it isn't a big deal, but the radio stations play a major role in *GTA*'s world, and the new content will add to the feel of the game.

## 5. SAVE GAME TRANSFERS

Don't feel like starting the game from scratch? No problem. Bring across your game from your Xbox 360/PS3, and voila! You're back in the game... just a shinier, better version.

*GTA V* is one of the greatest games of the last generation, revolutionising the open-world genre that it created in the days of PlayStation 1. Rockstar Games seems to have done it again, because they have just delivered the greatest gaming experience, ever!





# FAR CRY 4

Two years ago, Ubisoft released *Far Cry 3*, with a beautiful world to explore, and the greatest villain in the history of video games. Now, with the release of *Far Cry 4*, has Ubisoft improved the amazing game, or is it basically the same?

*Far Cry 3* is an incredible game. Not only does it let you hunt animals and cause chaos, but it also features Vaas, arguably the most psychotic villain on our consoles of choice. “So, what has changed in the sequel?” you may ask. Quite a lot, actually. But don’t fret, because all of the changes improve the fantastic game.

## RUN TO THE HILLS

The *Far Cry* series is known for its exotic landscapes, from the lush islands, to the harsh Bushveld of Africa. In *Far Cry 4*, we head off to the Himalayas and get caught up in the fictional land of Kyrat, a breathtaking, perilously wild region. With the extra horsepower that the new consoles provide, Kyrat is one of the most beautiful areas I’ve ever seen in a game.

## THE WORLD NEEDS A HERO

If I had to criticise *Far Cry 3*, I’d start with the leading man, a chap who often detached himself from the world he was trying to save. Ubisoft has fixed that little problem. You play Ajay Ghale, a former member of the Kyrat community, who has returned to the war-torn area in order to scatter his mother’s ashes. Of course, it’s not that simple for Ajay, who gets embroiled in the

politics of the region. But Ajay isn’t your typical local, he can work grappling hooks, crossbows, bombs, guns, knives, and anything else you can think of. Plus, the highlight is Ajay’s Wingsuit, allowing you to glide through the Himalayan peaks for business, or pleasure.

**IT’S GOOD TO BE BAD**  
When it came to creating *Far Cry 4*, stopping Vaas and his lunatic ways was a tough task.

But Ubisoft took on the task and created Pagan Min, Kyrat’s local psycho. Seen as Kyrat’s despotic, self-appointed king, Pagan has all of the classic-baddie characteristics, switching from “Mr Nice Guy” to “Mr Smash Your Face In With An Axe” in a few seconds. But there is more to Pagan, a method to his madness that will be a pleasant surprise, and a shock to players.

## THE HILLS ARE ALIVE...

Armed with a likeable protagonist, and a psychotic antagonist, *Far Cry 4* plays like a dream. It retains the tight, first-person-shooter mechanics from the previous games, while improving in almost every area. From its gorgeous visuals, to its incredible characters, *Far Cry 4* might be the best shooter out this year.







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# PRO EVOLUTION SOCCER 2015

With EA Sports' *FIFA 15* dominating the charts across the globe, *Pro Evolution Soccer 2015* (*PES 2015*), a real soccer fan's game, arrives on the scene to take on the King of Footy. Will Konami's once-popular soccer game reclaim its title?

Back in PlayStation 2's heyday, *PES* was seen as the best soccer game by far, with *FIFA* close behind. However, with the Xbox 360, and the PS3, the *PES* powerhouse took a few missteps, while EA Sports' offering escalated to new heights. Will the next generation be kinder to Konami? Looking at *PES 2015*, yes.

## SEXY SOCCER

Created with the new Fox Engine, used to power the new *Metal Gear Solid*, *PES 2015* looks amazing. The stadiums come alive with animated crowds, and little details like banners and fireworks in the stands. A major problem with the older *PES* games was the players' stiff movements. This problem has been resolved, and now the movement is as fluid as the real thing. Seeing Cristiano Ronaldo cut through an entire defence is a thing of beauty.

## BUT DOES IT PLAY?

*PES* has always been about substance over style, and *PES 2015* is proof. Gone are the fiddly, overly complicated controls of yesteryear! Konami has simplified the controls, making the feel of the game more natural, more intuitive. "Less is more" is the philosophy this year, and it truly shines when you start a match. The controls are simple enough to play a solid game of soccer, with the depth needed to pull off some impressive moves.

## HAIL THE KING

So, does this year's *PES* have what it takes to topple the colossus that is *FIFA*? Not quite. Yes, massive improvements have been made, but the lack of licensed teams will still be a sore point for a lot of fans. To *FIFA* fans, the gameplay might feel a bit slow in the beginning, but that's actually a good thing. *PES 2015* is a strong alternative to *FIFA*.



## LITTLEBIGPLANET3

Critically acclaimed *LittleBigPlanet3* makes its debut on Sony's shiny, new console, the PlayStation 4. Sackboy returns, and he's brought along new friends, Toggle, Oddsock, and Swoop, each with their unique abilities, and personalities. Our hero is transported to a new planet called "Bunkum," a creative paradise where abundant ideas drift through the sky. Unwittingly, Sackboy releases three mythical creatures hell-bent on ruining Bunkum. *LittleBigPlanet* has always been a great creative outlet, and this time, it's a real treat for all PS4 owners.



A promotional poster for a boxing match. The background is a close-up of two men's faces, Bagattin on the left and Roodman on the right, both looking intensely at the camera. The image is split vertically down the middle. In the center, over a black background, is the word 'WELTER' in large, white, stylized block letters. The letter 'E' in 'WELTER' contains the number '36' in white. Below the word 'WELTER' is a small black rectangle containing the text 'KEITH HO' in small white letters, followed by 'BetXchange' in a stylized yellow and white font, and '.com' in small white letters.

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# FOXCATCHER

Based on true events, *Foxcatcher* tells a dark and fascinating story of the tragic relationship between an eccentric multi-millionaire, and two champion wrestlers.

by **ANDRE COETZER**

When Mark Schultz (Channing Tatum), an Olympic wrestler, is asked by John du Pont (Steve Carell), a wealthy heir, to move onto the du Pont estate in order to train for the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games at his new, state-of-the-art training facility, Schultz jumps at the opportunity hoping to focus on his training, and to finally step out of the shadow of his revered brother, Dave (Mark Ruffalo). Driven by hidden motives, du Pont sees “coaching” a world-class wrestling team as an opportunity to gain the elusive respect of his peers, and more importantly, his

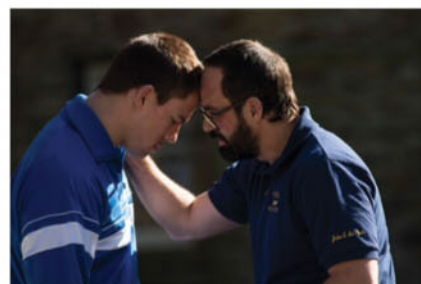
disapproving mother

(Vanessa Redgrave).

Flattered by the attention and entranced by du Pont’s majestic world, Mark begins to see his benefactor as a father figure, and grows increasingly dependent on his approval. Though initially supportive, du Pont’s mercurial personality switches, and he begins to lure Mark into an unhealthy lifestyle that threatens to undermine his training. Soon, du Pont’s cruel, psychological mind games begin to erode the athlete’s already shaky self-esteem. Meanwhile, du Pont becomes fixated on Dave, who exudes the

confidence both he and Mark lack, knowing that this is something even money cannot buy. Fuelled by du Pont’s increasing paranoia, the trio is propelled towards a tragedy no one could have foreseen.

*Foxcatcher* is a rich and moving story about brotherly love, misguided loyalty, and the corruption and emotional bankruptcy that can accompany power and wealth. Just like his previous films, *Capote* and *Moneyball*, Bennett Miller explores large themes in society through his complex portrayals of real people.







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# EMPORIUM

WHAT MEN WANT

## PERFECT VIEWS

Yes, the Golden Age of TV is here, and we swear on Walter White's grave that the latest sets and streaming devices are finally worthy of showcasing the action. Their screens are sharper; their interfaces are smarter. Here are the best ways to watch.

by **DAN ACKERMAN**

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**SCREEN ENHANCEMENT:** One big problem with 4K TVs? We don't have a lot of high-res content, except for a few movies, and streams. The HU9000 is fantastic, adding detail and pixels to regular, HD content, making it 4K-like.

R65 000; [dionwired.co.za](http://dionwired.co.za)



### THE HYPER-REAL TELEVISION

#### Sony X900B

It's not about how many pixels you have, it's about how you use them, and the X900B employs all 8 million, generating the best picture of any ultra-res set around. All the credit goes to its local dimming tech, which maximises the contrast between the bright and dark elements in the picture. Everything from soccer, to a Verimark advert, appears fully rendered and complete. Katy Perry's pores never looked so stunning.

**SOUND DESIGN:** The X900B brings the noise. Its six speakers, which tuck seamlessly into the slim design, kick out 65 watts of combined power. They're loud enough to replace a sound bar.

R75 000; [afribaba.co.za](http://afribaba.co.za)



### THE MOST INTELLIGENT SMART TV

#### LG 55LB7200

Most smart TVs are pretty dumb, offering a suite of connected apps, but a clogged interface. This Wi-Fi-connected, 55-inch TV is the rare exception. In addition to its beautiful picture and wide viewing angle, its webOS system is efficient and smooth, with an interface that pops up as a scrolling line of subtle, colourful tiles. It strings your most recent apps and features along the left of the timeline-like row of cards, predicts the apps you'd probably want to use next, and suggests content based on your viewing habits.

**ULTIMATE CONTROL:** The included remote works via voice commands, and also allows you to aim at any tile or button to trigger it.

R18 000; [lg.com](http://lg.com)

### THE ONE RING TO CONTROL IT ALL



For those who dream up tomorrow's tech, the next great race is to invent the successor to our current remote-control systems. Voice commands looked like the big contender, but they forced us to scream at our TVs like senile octogenarians asking Siri where the cat food is. The solution, it seems, is gesture control. A ring with a host of sensors that detect hand and finger movements, it pairs with Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, letting you seamlessly connect and control nearly any smart device, from PCs and televisions, to thermostats. Flick your finger to change channels; motion like you're opening a jar to raise the heat. While we were dubious at first, a demo made us believers. Here's to finally giving our old remote the finger.

[hellonod.com](http://hellonod.com)

—Jon Chase



## STREAM MACHINES

THEY WON'T MAKE YOU GET RID OF DSTV, BUT THE LATEST STREAMING DEVICES ARE SMARTER, AND MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN EVER. ARE THEY PERFECT? NO. BUT THEY MAKE IT EASIER TO FIND WHAT YOU WANT, AND THAT'S HALF THE BATTLE.



### BEST FOR STEVE JOBS DEVOTEES

#### Apple TV

Apple's slim device is still the simplest to use out of the box, and it's the only device that allows you to stream the content sitting in your iTunes account to your flat screen. If you're an iOS user, there's nothing better.

*R1 399; superbalist.com*



### BEST FOR DSTV HOLDOUTS

#### Xbox One

Consider the Xbox One an all-seeing, all-hearing, entertainment ecosystem. It lets you access nearly every streaming service, and, of course, you get to play *Halo* too.

*R6 670; store.orange.com*



### BEST FOR THE CHANNEL OBSESSED

#### Piko TV Smart Stick

Made in South Africa, this dongle is the ultimate streaming device taking on Apple TV. The Piko turns any HDMI-enabled TV into a smart TV, with no extra charge. In addition to the pre-installed apps it comes with (Facebook, Angry Birds, YouTube, etc.), the Piko allows you to watch multimedia content by copying files to the gizmo, or streaming content to it from any device.

*R1 195; maslow.co.za*



### BEST FOR THE GLORIFIED COUCH POTATO

#### The Altech Node

The new kid on the block is here to make Apple TV and any other streaming device on the street let out a nervous laugh. A triple threat, the Node offers smart entertainment, smart TV, and a smart home. Watch over 700 hours of content, and control just about any device in your home through the Node's Smart Plugs. If you're going to be a couch potato, be awesome while doing it.

*R3 499; altechnode.co.za*



## SUPER CHARGERS

Don't miss out on a last-minute meeting, or a late-night rendezvous, because your phone is dead. We tested the latest portable power packs, and found the five best options for bringing your gadgets back to life.

by **STAN HORACZEK**

**1. IBATTZ MOJO  
BATTSTATION  
OPTIMUS 20400**

As one of the strongest, lightest reserves around, the Optimus weighs about half a kilogram, but packs a 20 400-mAh battery, good for resuscitating a dead phone up to eight times, or nearly any tablet twice.

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

**2. BRAVEN  
BRV-BANK**

Drop it, dunk it, defile it, this battery is designed for abuse, and there's a serious brain beneath its military-spec skin. The unit charges two devices at once, and it syncs with your phone, so you can manage the power supply. It also has a torch, and an animal siren, in case you have one hell of a night.

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

**3. JUNOJUMPR**

Rejoice, road warriors! This charger's phone-resurrecting, 6 000-mAh battery can also rejuvenate your ride. Connect the 12-volt jumper cables (included), and it will start a dead car in a matter of minutes.

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

**4. ANKER 2ND  
GEN ASTRO  
PRO2**

The Astro is built for business. Smart enough to know that you are reviving, say, a tablet, it customises its output to provide the fastest, most efficient charge. That dead iPhone? It's good to go before you know it!

[bidorbuy.co.za](http://bidorbuy.co.za)

**5. ETON  
BOOSTTURBINE  
2000**

This 2 000-mAh power pack has an extra backup... a built-in hand crank. Two minutes of winding fuels 30 seconds of talk, or text time (and it works on that sore shoulder).

[laptopdirect.co.za](http://laptopdirect.co.za)



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#### GOOD AS GOLD

A glowing blog post from Bill Gates (left) turned this book into an instant bestseller. In it, author John Brooks (far right) spun the famous failure of Ford's Edsel, and the mighty success of Xerox's copy machine (right) into *Mad Men*-like drama.

# THINK LIKE A BILLIONAIRE

Thanks to Bill Gates, a long-forgotten work by John Brooks became a must-read classic.

by CHRIS RAYMOND

**AS THE STORY GOES**, Bill Gates borrowed a copy of the book from Warren Buffett back in 1991, and enjoyed the decades-old tales of derring-do (and don't) so much, that he never bothered to return it. Last July, Gates decided to rescue the 45-year-old work from obscurity by penning a short tribute to it on his blog. He shared the post with *The Wall Street Journal*, one of America's renowned newspapers, and within days, John Brooks'

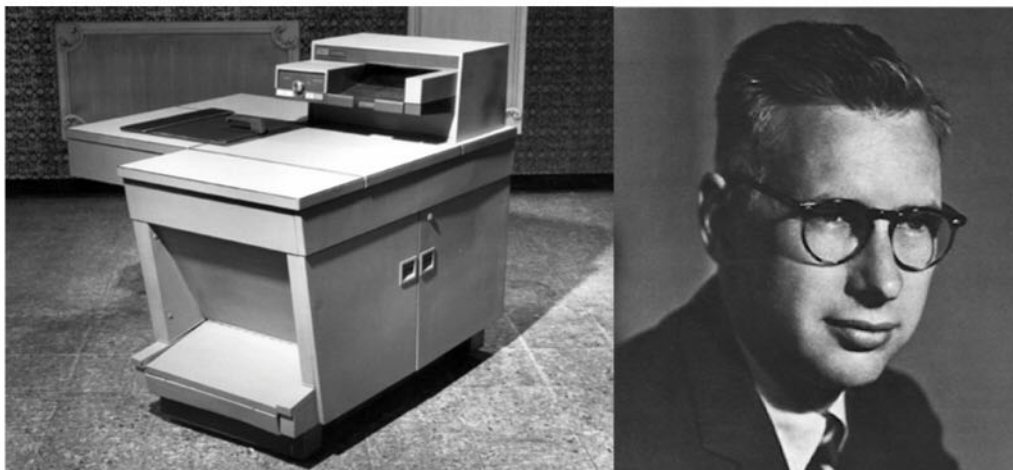
*Business Adventures* was the hottest book in America. It remains, Gates wrote, "The best business book I've ever read."

Hot on the tail of the tech titan's endorsement, Open Road Media rushed a digital version of the book to the market. Before the publisher could even print the paperback edition, it had climbed to the top of Amazon's best-seller list. Used copies of the original hardcover popped up on the site, priced at about R30 000. If Gates and Buffett, two of the best minds of our time, both loved it, the thinking went, then surely *Business Adventures* must contain some nuggets of wisdom... maybe even the secret to the billionaires' success.

And in fact, a host of luminaries have praised Brooks' work over the years, such as economist John Kenneth Galbraith, and investor Carl Icahn.

In the age of Twitter, an era where wisdom comes in short, pithy bites, *Business*





*Adventures* is an anomaly, a collection of 12 long-form stories published between 1959, and 1969. As Gates warns, “Brooks didn’t boil his work down into pat, how-to lessons, or simplistic explanations for success.” Essentially, you must be prepared to read the whole thing.

In the author’s hands, insider-trading scandals and price-fixing schemes become riveting case studies, rich, layered dramas plucked from the days of *Mad Men*. “*Business Adventures* is as much about the strengths and weaknesses of leaders in challenging circumstances as it is about the particulars of one business or another,” writes Gates, “It’s really about human nature, which is why it has stood the test of time.”

Brooks skilfully discounts the conventional wisdom that Ford’s famous failure, the Edsel, went belly-up, because of some obvious lapse in judgment. The team of men who designed it were, in fact, supremely talented. What derailed their creation in the end was not a fatal design flaw, but rather a series of miscues, routine delays, misplaced hunches, and a Sputnik-inspired dip in consumer confidence, that combined to stir up a deadly storm, the kind that’s been known to upend companies like AOL. “The Edsel programme, like any other project planned for future markets, was based on the best information available at the time,” one member of the effort tells Brooks. Another adds, “The people who came up with Edsel knew they were taking a chance, and I like people who’ll take chances.”

Gates clearly sides with that camp. In his blog post, he highly recommends Brooks’ Xerox story, which explains in detail how the 32-year-old son of a Swedish barber, working

**BUSINESS  
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IT HAS STOOD THE  
TEST OF TIME.”**

in a kitchen above a dingy bar, came up with a way to create the modern copy machine, unleashing the most spectacular success story of the 1960s. “Brooks’ article tells an important part of the company’s early story,” writes Gates, “He shows how it was built on original, outside-the-box thinking, which makes it all the more surprising that as Xerox matured, it would miss out on unconventional ideas developed by its own researchers,” ideas that Microsoft and Apple would later use to make their own groundbreaking products.

To Brooks, the stock market is “a sociological test tube, forever contributing to the human species’ self-understanding.” And indeed, a brief survey of modern-day readers reveals the author’s power in capturing those revelations. “I found myself having epiphanies over and over again. Like,

‘Oh, my God! I bet that’s what happened in this other case,’ ” says Eric Gibbons, who bought the book shortly after the software start-up he works for was purchased by Twitter. And to Gibbons’ point, it’s hard to read Brooks’ prose without spotting the links between Ford and Apple, and Xerox and Microsoft. The themes of disruption and risk assessment are no less relevant.

Brooks, who died in 1993 at the age of 72, clearly had a well-tuned antenna for the drama of his day. Perhaps, it was a by-product of his military service as a radar operator. He grew up during the Great Depression, attended the acclaimed Princeton University, and fought in World War II. He wrote 10 books on business and finance, not to mention three novels. At his best, he took complicated topics and motives, and made them easy to understand.

And so, 21 years after he passed away, Brooks’ work has been granted a second life. Like so many of his stories, this one has an unsung hero, and that is literary agent Craig Tenney, who represents the Brooks estate for Harold Ober Associates. “I’m kind of like a secret agent,” he says, noting that he specialises in rescuing long-forgotten titles. When Tenney read that a best-selling author had a copy of Brooks’ *Once in Golconda* sitting at his bedside, he had a hunch that Brooks was ready for a comeback. On the day he heard about Gates’ plans to endorse *Business Adventures*, Tenney was already in talks with Open Road to put the author’s works back into circulation. Thanks to Gates’ act of generosity, that deal was easy to close. “The timing is amazing,” Tenney says, “I’ve never seen a revival quite like this.” ■

# HOLT YOUR HORSES!

Heads turn in unison as she steps into a room, and raised brows salute her as she commands attention armed with an arsenal of loaded beauty. Model and humanitarian Alysson Holt is a woman on a mission, and we pledge allegiance.

by  
**FARAI MAKONI**

photographs by  
**@BRIANBHAYES / @SHANDREWPR**

make-up by  
**EVELISSE HAHN**







I LOOK AT THE WAY HE CARRIES HIMSELF. I LOVE A CONFIDENT MAN WITH POISE AND CHARISMA. NICE EYES ARE ALWAYS A PLUS.

# H

**Hey, Alysson! We're chuffed to have you on our cover. Did you always want to be a model?**

I've wanted to be a model since I was a young girl. I idolised Claudia Schiffer, Cindy Crawford, and Christy Turlington. When I grew up, I owned my sexuality, and loved living in a bikini. So, modelling seemed like a natural choice.

**Have you ever been to South Africa?**

I haven't been to South Africa, but I'm in the process of planning a trip for next year, or early 2016. I've heard that it is exceptionally gorgeous.

**We know that "blondes have more fun" and all, but you need to defend your title. What's the craziest thing you've ever done?**

I think I'm an adventurous gal. I once took a dip in the Pacific Ocean, even though there was a shark sighting two days before. I also rode a young horse on a rocky terrain... without a helmet.

**So, will your antics get you Christmas gifts from Santa? He isn't fond of bad girls (he probably is, secretly).**

I'm usually as sweet as candy, but lately, I've definitely had a naughty streak. I guess we'll find out what Santa decides on Christmas.

**What do gorgeous women like you do in their spare time? We're pretty sure it's not laundry, or gardening.**

In my spare time, I loathe doing normal things like laundry. However, I do have my domestic moments... I make a mean pecan pie. Other than that, my free time is spent with my friends, family, dog, and of course, series! Lately, I've been into Pilates, and I've also been working on my nonprofit organisation that helps endangered whales and dolphins.

**Your French bulldog has an Instagram page with more followers than a lot of people. How did that page come about?**

When I got my French bulldog, Beatrice, I thought it would be fun to document her puppy antics. There are a few famous bulldogs on Instagram, so she has some tough competition. But more than anything, it's a fun way for me to share my cute puppy with the world! Beatrice loves travelling, and she's amazing on planes, she sleeps like a baby.

**Can she do any tricks?**

We are working on tricks, and they will come when she's a little more mature, and less hyper. I have a labradoodle that stays with my parents, and she's full of tricks. My favourite one is when I ask her, "What's on top of the house?" and she replies, "Bark!" It's adorable!

**You were in Kid Rock's music video. That must have been a crazy set.**

Oh, boy! There were "little people" everywhere, cursing, drinking hard alcohol straight from the bottle, and pissing in the pool. It was a riot. I don't think I could ever dream a scene like that night even if I tried.

**What's the first thing you look at when it comes to men?**

I look at the way he carries himself. I love a confident man with poise and charisma. Nice eyes are always a plus.

**What can't you stand in a man?**

The simple task of planning a date and asking a girl out has become a thing of the past. These days, men don't try as much to impress women, because they are flooded with options from Tinder, Instagram, and Facebook. It's not that hard! Tell me that you picked a great restaurant, that I should be ready by 8:30 on a Friday night, and that I should wear something sexy and classy!

**What's the worst Christmas gift you've ever gotten?**

One Christmas, my ex gave me a framed photo of himself... it was a selfie. Total douchebag! ■



















The Springboks

# WHAT A YEAR; WHAT A NATION

John Steinbeck once said, "A journey is a person in itself; no two are alike. And all plans, safeguards, policing, and coercion are fruitless. We find that after years of struggle, we do not take a trip; a trip takes us." 2014 has been quite a sporting trip for us as a nation. Even with all of the issues South Africa faces on a daily basis, there is a sanctuary where we all gather, from the beaches in Clifton, to the shebeens in Soweto, watching our sports stars strut their stuff. As I reflect on this year, it becomes evident that there have been more positives than negatives.

by **BRANDON GOING**

## **THE SPRINGBOKS:**

This year, the Springboks proved that they were the second-best team on the planet. Even though a bulk of their performances weren't as illustrious as last year's, the biggest coup was achieved when they took on the All Blacks in the Rugby Championship.

Jean de Villiers and Bryan Habana both played 100 test matches for the Boks, joining an exceptionally exclusive club, now made up of just 5 members. The Boks remain undefeated, and with the World Cup less than a year away, they will certainly be aiming to maintain their dominance.





Hashim Amla:  
The Proteas

#### THE PROTEAS:

In terms of playing stock, South African cricket couldn't be healthier. In the Test and ODI team, you will find leading fast bowler Dale Steyn, and two of the most destructive batsmen, AB de Villiers and Hashim Amla. De Villiers and Steyn have both been shortlisted for Cricketer of the Year by the ICC, and they are the nation's most important players. Graeme Smith and Jacques Kallis' retirements have left a massive void in the team. These legends of the game are irreplaceable; however, there is certainly enough emerging talent to make up for the loss. For example, Quinton de Kock, the imperious, left-handed batsman who exploded onto the scene against India in the One Day International series.

The current Test team is the most dominant we have seen since post-isolation. However, as always, the area of contention is that the World Cup is played in a 50-over format, and this King-Kong-sized monkey needs to be kicked off the Proteas' back. In that sphere of the game, the Proteas are currently on a roll. They've beaten Sri Lanka in their own backyard, remained unbeaten in the series against Zimbabwe, thrashed the Kiwis in New Zealand... need I say more? With the World Cup a mere four months away, it looks like the Proteas might just get a World Cup win.



Bafana Bafana

#### BAFANA BAFANA

South Africa has the wealthiest domestic league on the continent, reaching a global audience; however, the national side has languished in obscurity and mediocrity for too long. Fortunately, Shakes Mashaba has come into the picture, and he is transforming Bafana into a group of players "willing to die for the jersey." With impressive wins against Sudan and Congo, Bafana should certainly qualify for the African Nations Cup. Mashaba has a youthful squad at his disposal, and if they keep up the good work, they'll be serious contenders for the continent's showpiece tournament.

The death of Senzo Meyiwa, South Africa's goalkeeper and skipper, is a travesty. The 27-year-old talent was instrumental in Bafana's improvement. His calm authority resonated with the entire team, pushing the squad to do their best. At his tender age, he was only going to get better as a goalkeeper, and most importantly, as a leader. Bafana Bafana can allow this tragedy to undo all of their hard work, or they can fight back, and dedicate the rest of the qualifying rounds, and the tournament to his memory, and to his family.





Chad le Clos

#### SWIMMING:

At this point in his career, Chad le Clos can do no wrong. Raised in the humble area of Pinetown in KwaZulu-Natal, his story is of iron-will determination, a work ethic second to none, and a more than generous dollop of talent. At 22, the pool is Chad's oyster. Exploding onto the scene at the Commonwealth Games in 2010, he has dominated his 3 chosen disciplines, freestyle, butterfly, and individual medley. However, it was his remarkable achievements at the Olympic Games in 2012, where he beat Michael Phelps, the master, the Aquaman of swimming, in the 200-metre butterfly.

Le Clos has always revered Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian in history. Le Clos said that he watched Phelps win at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing over a million times; yet, he is confident that he will beat Phelps in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. In 2014, at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, he achieved the record of seven medals. He's well on his way to becoming South Africa's greatest swimmer, and what makes this even more frightening is the fact that he is only 22.



Leon Mynhardt

#### MIXED MARTIAL ARTS:

I had the pleasure of chatting to EFC (Extreme Fighting Championship) Matchmaker Graeme Cartmel, and I asked him which fighter he'd want on his side in a bar brawl. Unequivocally, he stated, "Leon Mynhardt." Mynhardt is described as having a "warrior spirit," fighting is in his blood. He has taken the long and arduous road to be where he currently is, the lightweight champion. When he exploded onto the scene at EFC 13, all the pundits and spectators realised that he was the "real deal." Arguably the toughest man in the organisation, his fight with Costa Ioannou is a testament to his resilience. Spending most of the round in a keylock, he never tapped out, and to this day, he is unable to bend his arm in a straight

position. What also adds to Mynhardt's reputation is his ability to take an opponent's hardest punch, and reciprocate it with even more force. To many in the organisation, he has the hardest punch in the business. Cartmel now sees him as a complete fighter. Mynhardt is an enigma, and quite frankly, an extremely intimidating figure to his opponents. The fact that he will not stop until he has "destroyed" you is a major mental obstacle to overcome, especially considering that there are very few weaknesses in his overall fight strategy. You can be sure that he will hold on to his title with all the verve and tenacity, making him not only a worthy champion, but a damn nice fellow to boot. ■

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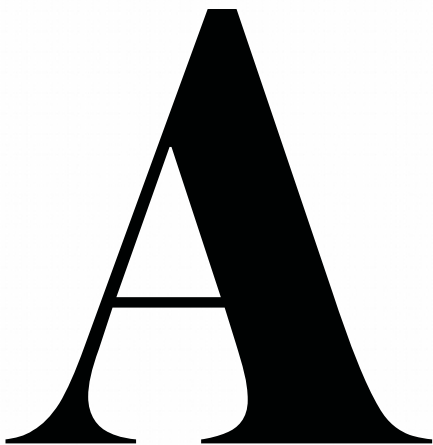
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# FROM STRIPPER TO STARDOM

Very few actors in Hollywood have such a unique backstory as the former stripper turned movie star, Channing Tatum. From growing up in the bayous of the Mississippi river, to being a dancer in a Ricky Martin music video, Tatum has walked an interesting road to becoming a fine actor and in his latest film *Foxcatcher*, we get to see exactly why he is one of the most sought after actors in the business.

by  
**ANDRE COETZER**



An athletic child growing up, Tatum played various sports ranging from football to soccer, being voted Most Athletic upon graduating from *Tampa Catholic High School*. Although attending *Glenville State College* in West Virginia on a football scholarship, he decided to move back home and do odd jobs around his hometown. Struggling to make ends meet as a roofer, he began working as a stripper at a local night club under the name “*Chan Crawford*”, the 8 month experience helped pay the bills but also eventually ended up being the inspiration for the critically acclaimed hit, “*Magic Mike*”. But it was not until he moved to Florida that things really took off for Tatum.

Early on in 2000, he was cast as a dancer in the *Ricky Martin* smash hit “*She Bangs*”. He got noticed by various modeling agencies and

went on to focus on his modeling career, working with highly acclaimed clients such as *Armani* and *Abercrombie & Fitch*. It was not just the fashion pages that loved him, television commercials soon came knocking, appearing in various *Mountain Dew* and *Pepsi* commercials. Tatum was then cast in minor roles in films including “*Coach Carter*” and “*War of the Worlds*”, but his big breakthrough role came in the form of “*Step Up*”, a popular dance film that introduced the young Mississippi native to a wider audience. Channing Tatum was now a household name, appearing in blockbuster hits like “*G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra*” and tearjerker “*Dear John*”.

Life was good for Tatum as he married his “*Step Up*” co-star Jenna Dewan, starred in big blockbuster films from the self inspired story of “*Magic Mike*” to the film adaption of the 80’s cult hit TV show “*21 Jump Street*”. Not a man to sit on his haunches, Tatum also started two production companies, *33andOut Productions* and *Iron Horse Entertainment*, along with his wife and several friends.

Tatum has now hit the big time, transforming himself from an almost “down and out” stripper in Mississippi, to one of the hottest properties in Hollywood today. Fashion model, film producer, incredible dancer, comedic action star and now, thanks to *Foxcatcher*, a potential Oscar winner, Channing Tatum is a man of many talents and undoubtedly one of the most gifted people in Hollywood today.

See Channing Tatum in his best acting performance yet, as he teams up with *Steve Carell* and *Mark Ruffalo* in the critically acclaimed film *Foxcatcher*, based on the true events of the tragic murder of Olympic Champion, Dave Schultz. ■

*Foxcatcher* in theatres 2 January 2015.







# FORBES' LIST

Thousands of fellas want to be like award-winning radio personality Rob Forbes, but only a few get the chance, while the rest end up DJing Kenny G's "Greatest Hits" album at shotgun weddings. Luckily, Forbes is dishing out a list of tips on how to make it in the industry, and other interesting stuff worth putting in our magazine.

by  
**FARAI MAKONI**

photography by  
**AUBREY JOHNSON**

styling by  
**CHANTELLE MIRANDA**





**THIS PAGE;**  
Sunglasses Diesel,  
Moscon Optics  
R2 560  
Shirt, Zara R450  
Watch, SevenFriday  
R17 000

# D

**Did you always want to be a DJ, or did you once throw on a white-collar shirt, and do spreadsheets?**

I always wanted to be Rick Rubin, actually. Big beard. Own a recording studio. Make albums with bands. Sadly, those days are behind me. So, I started producing for radio, and eventually, I got shoved in front of a mic. An open-plan office with a tie around my neck, and the comforting hum of fluorescent lights... that's literally my vision of Hell.

**How did you get into the industry?**

I spent 10 years on campus radio; luckily, I spent it with incredibly talented managers. I got to learn from people who actually "get" radio. I could've gone commercial much earlier, I suppose, but I've got very high standards for myself. I wanted to be sure I was good enough.

**What's your view on DJs who use VirtualDJ? Is it just as bad as finding out that Michael Jackson moonwalked using Heelys?**

I'm quite chilled on the whole "technology in DJing" thing. I love digital toys. At the end of the day, we're there to make you dance, right? Do you care how? I don't. Just don't pre-mix,



**THIS PAGE;**

Jacket, Zara R1 200  
T-shirt, Zara R200  
Pants, 7 For All Mankind  
R3 995  
Sneakers, Superga R650

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[www.race1.co.za](http://www.race1.co.za)

do whatever it is that you do live. "Celeb" DJs who just press "Play" on a pre-mix are the ones who piss me off. There's a talented person somewhere without a gig, because someone gave you a mix. No.

**Got any tips for budding DJs?**

Watch other DJs spin! I was lucky enough to spend about 3 hours in the booth with Black Coffee while he played. I still use some of the techniques that I picked up.

**How do you monitor the calls that you get from your listeners? You never know what some disturbed caller might say live on air.**

Fortunately, I have a technical producer who handles the calls. Sometimes, though, someone will drop something naughty once they're through to you. People lie, but the trick is to not dwell on it. Have a laugh, and move on.

**What's the worst thing you've said live on air?**

"OH, FUCK THIS!" very loudly, and directly into the mic. I thought I'd turned the mic off. I hadn't.

**You're a headbanger at heart, but are there any songs you're ashamed to say you like?**

"Call Me Maybe," it's the chosen one.

**DJs have the most diehard groupies. Do you ever get used to women throwing themselves at you?**

It's obviously flattering, but to be honest, I don't really feel like I get hit on that often. Normally, you arrive, you play, and then you leave. I've been with one woman for 9 years, though. Maybe, I'm the exception (laughs).

**What's an item of clothing every guy needs to have in his closet?**

A long-sleeve, Henley shirt. Get a white one, a blue one, and a grey one.

**Is there a trending item of clothing you wouldn't be caught dead in?**

Those tight shorts that look like they were cut from skinnies, especially in pastel colours. Yuck. Grow a beard, and man up.

**What can we expect from you next year?**

The breakfast show (laughs). No, not yet. Next year, I'm gonna push my giggling up a notch. I want to get onto the big festival lineups. I wanna see if I can put some original music out there, but that's really hard. I'm working on some amazing plans for the show on 5FM. But mostly, I'll be working hard on making you laugh at your radio. ■





**THIS PAGE;**

Jersey, Zara R460  
Pants, True Religion  
R3 695  
Loafers, Green Cross  
R1 200  
Watch, Bomberg  
R10 500  
Bag, Kingsley Heath  
R3 000

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T-shirt, Next at Spree  
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Pants, Kingsley Heath  
R750  
Shoes, Superga R550





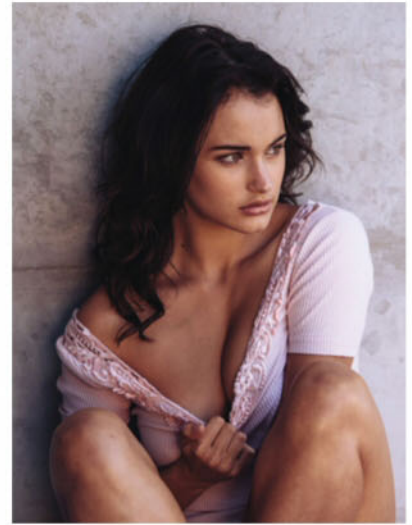
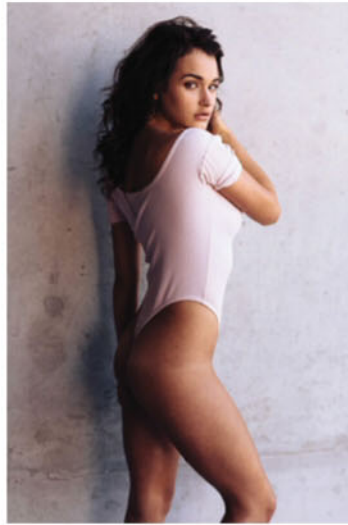


# SCHOOL DAZE

Alex McGregor plays a man-eating schoolgirl in *Spud*, and this is why our education system needs more help than Lindsay Lohan making a 911 call. How are schoolboys supposed to concentrate in a classroom with a girl hotter than a dragon's lip?

by  
**FARAI MAKONI**

photography by  
**PREYEN MOODLEY**



# H

DON'T LOOK FOR A GIRLFRIEND TO SHOW OFF ON INSTAGRAM. FIND AN AMAZING GIRL YOU CAN INTRODUCE TO YOUR PARENTS.

**Hey, Alex! How did you get into acting?**

I used to watch my sister, Lauren, rehearse for school plays, and I always wanted to get involved. It was inevitable. When I was 6, I joined an agency, and the rest is history.

**Did you have any backup careers?**

Having a "backup" would be like spending all night talking to a guy you really like, while winking at the barman.

**In the movie *Spud*, you're a man-eater (a prepubescent-boy-eater) who loves her fair share of boys. How similar are you and the character you play?**

(Laughs) Thank you for getting Nelly Furtado's "Maneater" stuck in my head.

**With a bunch of schoolboys on set, some crazy things must have gone down. Care to share?**

I don't follow the rules, but what happens on set, stays on set.

**In high school, you were probably a huge distraction for the boys, though.**

No comment.

**What was your favourite subject?**  
Biology.

**What's the toughest scene you've had to do in a movie?**

A sex scene. It was pretty awkward.

**Do you have a hidden talent?**

I like to draw, but it's more "hidden" than it is a "talent".

**Being perfect and all, what do you suck at?**

Handstands.

**What's the worst thing a guy has said or done while trying to win you over?**

A guy once told me that I have "vomit-colour eyes"... umm?

**Any tips for the single fella out there looking for a girlfriend he can show off on Instagram?**

Don't look for a girlfriend to show off on Instagram. Find an amazing girl you can introduce to your parents.

**What's your next move?**

The Sicilian Defence. ■







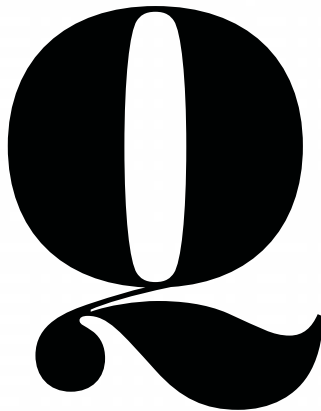


# MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY

IN THE PAST YEAR, HE'S WON EVERY AWARD IMAGINABLE. HE HAS A GORGEOUS WIFE, THREE KIDS, AND THE HOTTEST CAREER IN HOLLYWOOD, INCLUDING A STARRING ROLE IN *INTERSTELLAR*. SO, HOW DOES HE EXPLAIN THE "McCONAISSANCE"?

HE JUST KEPT LIVIN'.

by DAVID SWANSON



The last year has been pretty good to you, with the Golden Globe, an Oscar for *Dallas Buyers Club*, stealing scenes in *The Wolf of Wall Street*, an Emmy nomination for *True Detective*, 2014's biggest TV show, and... *Maxim* Icon.

You know, it looks like a different magazine. It looks more current, not all, "Hey! Let's give you hot ass, boners, and beer," but it still has a good, sexy edge to it.

Thanks, but let's be honest, those other honours are almost as big a deal. So, what happened? Five years ago, it seemed like you were a shirtless ladies' man playing bongos. Now, you're married with kids, winning every award short of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Well, there wasn't a "road to Galilee"

moment, but the stars have to align, and a lot of things have been aligning. Does my wife, Camila Alves, coming into my life have something to do with it? Absolutely. Does becoming a father have something to do with it? Absolutely. Just being in my 40s, it's a different chapter. You customise in your 40s. So, does that have something to do with it? Absolutely. Does luck have something to do with it? Absolutely.

Now, you're starring in Christopher Nolan's *Interstellar*, which is probably the biggest blockbuster of 2014.

Well, look, I can tell you this, straight and honestly... it's the most enormous and epic adventure I've ever seen on film. At the same time, the film is incredibly intimate, and personal.

How do you prepare for a heroic, leading-man role, after these dark, or damaged characters?

The challenge is that my character, Cooper, is supposed to be the everyman, and I was like, "Who the Hell is that today? Who is the everyman?" It's not like Don Draper in the '50s, or '60s. So, I worked hard with Chris to make this personal. Cooper's not perfect by any means. He performs some incredibly heroic acts, but at the same time, it's not like he's always right, or comes up with the perfect answer, or solution. But Chris has an incredible mind, man.

I know you studied some of the science behind the movie. Would you ever travel to Mars? They're trying to establish a colony there in the next decade.

Now that I have a family, I wouldn't do it as a guinea pig. Still, it would be interesting as a trip, if you believed that there was a good chance of being successful. But you'd probably have to go train, and say goodbye to the family for a year. I don't know about that.

You're known for throwing great parties.

What are some of your tricks?

I'll tell you a good one. Have someone offer a really nice tequila shot at the door. It just raises everyone's temperature, and more people will be dancing a few hours later. Here's another secret... if people get there at, say, 6PM, tell them dinner is at 8PM. But it's never *really* at 8PM, it's at 10, or 10:30, so people are starving. That way, no matter how much you cook, even if you're a great cook, it tastes even better, because they're so damn hungry. But sometimes, my brother won't even eat, because he doesn't want to disrupt his buzz. But we usually don't do anything too formal. We'll just get around the grill, and I'll end up cooking steaks, and shooting the shit.

What about music?

You've gotta have a different playlist for every party. You've got to think about what day it is, what the event is, and then plan how long it's going to go, and when you want the party to peak, and when you want it to really get rocking. The challenge is that you've always got clever, little guests who, after a couple of *those* tequila shots, want to DJ, so you've got to hide your music player. ■

*Interstellar* is out on the 7th of November.







## THE FARRELLY BROTHERS

The silly siblings behind *Dumb and Dumber To* discuss sequels, virgins, hair gel, and how they'd like to die.

**So, how do you want to go?**

BOBBY: I'd prefer something quick and simple, like, say, a tyre iron to the back of the head.

PETER: Just not on the toilet. *Not* on the toilet.

**Do you have any deathbed confessions?**

BOBBY: I'm one of those morons who watched *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*.

**How do you get the beans above the frank?**

PETER: I believe that's a penis joke, and we write highbrow movies like *Howards End*, and *Philomena*. Wait, you guys probably have access to IMDb, right? Oh, okay. A bottle of vodka, six blue-cheese-stuffed olives, an hour of yoga, and a 2x4.

**Are you going to Heaven, or to Hell?**

BOBBY: Not sure, but I won't require 72 virgins when I get there. I'm low maintenance. Two virgins and three sluts should work just fine.

PETER: It would be presumptuous to say, because I don't know how tight the grading is.

**Which of your movies will be playing in the great beyond?**

BOBBY: Hopefully, *Fargo*. It's the one I've bragged about the most.

PETER: *Fargo*.

**What have you wasted too much money on?**

BOBBY: Fast women and slow horses.

PETER: Definitely not *Maxim* magazine.

At an affordable price of R39.90, it's a waste not to buy it. I'm not sure why I did a plug for your magazine there. I'm a people pleaser.

**Name one thing you're glad you'll never have to do again on Earth.**

BOBBY: Listen to Skip Bayless and Stephen A. Smith discussing sports.

**What music will be playing at your funeral?**

BOBBY: "Hollaback Girl," by Gwen Stefani.

PETER: Something by Elvis Costello, because I think my wife is boning him, and she could probably get him to play at the service cheap. I hope he goes with "Alison."

**Will there be more laughing, or more crying?**

BOBBY: Either one is fine with me. I'm just afraid of apathy.

PETER: You guys seem pretty obsessed with thinking about us dead. What the fuck's with that?

**Are there fart jokes in the afterlife?**

BOBBY: Hope not. We've used up every fart joke down here.

**I'm looking at your corpses.**

**Is that hair gel?**

PETER: Again with death! No, that's *actual* jism. We plan to shoot a load on each other's ears just before dying. It's a "brother thing."

**With you both dead, what will happen to the *Dumb and Dumber* franchise?**

PETER: Our gay cowriter, Bennett Yellin, will continue on without our input, and Harry and Lloyd will finally admit that they're gay, too.

**Lloyd and Harry are delivering your eulogies. What would they say?**

BOBBY: Something dumb.

PETER: Uh, hello? They're fictitious characters, numbnuts!

**What's your proudest accomplishment?**

BOBBY: Taking 20 years before we made a sequel to any of our movies. ■



# ADVANCED STRENGTH

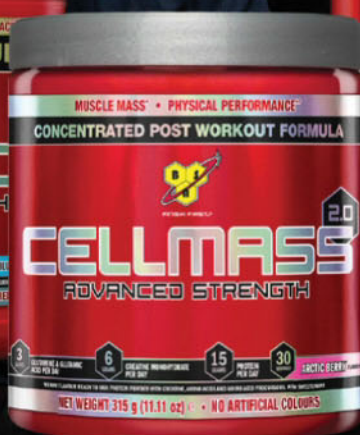


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